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A Madras Belle



Artist: N. S. Bendre.

Marshal Chiang's Sensational Book:

'CHINA'S DESTINY'

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Humorous Skit

BY HIRANMAY GHOSHAL

WHEN A CAT WALKS ACROSS YOUR PATH

"Of all my war experience the one that stands out clearly in my memory is that connected with cats. And I'll admit, I'd sooner have the roof-crashing, window-smashing business all over again than have a decimal of the catty affair repeated", declared Komarek with his usual raffine smile that characterises a cultivated Slav.

"I happened to be the inmate of a Refugees' Home somewhere in the Middle East, or shall I say for safety's sake, somewhere in the Solar System, only for three days. But when I look back upon those dismal days it seems to me, I had been living within a nightmare for years", continued Komarek preparing to start a fairly lengthy yarn. "I was deposited out of a plane on that out-of-the-way place and asked to wait for the next one for my destination. So, with my goods and chattels where do I find myself but in that Refugees' Home?"

When I eventually got to that glaring, white-washed building reflecting the Sun's rays like a piece of glass at noon, with a few date-palms sparsely scattered around it to give the place an oasis look; the first living thing I encountered was a gray cat twirling its tail at intervals into a question mark as if to ask itself in semaphore—'Now, whose is the dial approaching? I'm blown if I know!' And thus quietly soliloquizing the thing gingerly walked across my way. I'm not superstitious, but you'll presently know what that reception was to mean to me.

"Standing in the porch I pressed the button on the door while framing within my mind the sentences I should utter as soon as a human head popped out in the doorway. I could hear the whirr of the bell somewhere far away, but as to the appearance of a visage I might as well cry my heart out in the wilderness. I pressed the button for the second and third time. There was a faint stir and a muffled flop on the window-sill. I was about to say 'Good afternoon, I'm so sorry to...' when turning round I discovered the face of another cat (this time a piebald one) instead of a human head, peeping out of the window. It stared hard at me for a full minute, then feigning extreme apathy to my presence titivated itself with a paw and stationed itself on the window-ledge, contemplating the surrounding view.

Then every time I pressed the button it batted an eye as if inwardly amused. It could not however retain its outward disinterestedness for long, as the sight of a man toying with a calling-bell button at siesta-time was obviously a joke which it was a pity not to enjoy in the company of one's fellow beings. So it flopped down into the room and presently returned with three other cats of various colour schemes. They sat on the window-ledge in a row, all equally apathetic to my presence and engrossed in appreciating the beauty of Nature. I pressed the button harder and harder having the compensation for my futile efforts in the feeling as though I had been thrusting an eyeball of my arch-enemy deep into its socket. In the meantime two more cats had joined the party, and they all sat most placidly looking askance at me from time to time.

"If I stopped ringing for a minute when I felt out of breath, they all turned their heads to me, throwing suggestive glances, egging me on in their catty way to go on with the show, as if I was a hired mountebank engaged to provide entertainment to that crowd. And if I want hard at it and pressed the button at intervals of half a second, putting more and more energy into the job, they all looked at one another and at me with a flicker of amusement in their eyes which narrowed down at the ends into a suspicion of a wink as much as to say—'Look at that perfect fathead trying the strength of his beet on the calling-bell!'"

"The Sun's rays containing calories of heat something like 125 degrees, reinforced by the glint radiated by the sand, was telling heavily upon my nerves. I had half a feeling that I was going to act in a way which I would not have expected of myself in normal circumstances. But the catty conspiracy was proving too trying to my sense of proportions, and at the next turn of silent sniggers of those cats, I picked up a piece of stone (which might have been a piece of the Tower of Babel) and bashed the porcelain of that modern contraption. At which the assembly of cats seemed to be still more amused and narrowed the corners of their eyes in vicious winks. This was provocative enough, and I could not contain myself any longer. I started kicking at the door. As soon as the first few kicks resounded into the

house steeped in siesta three more cats popped their heads out of the window on the first floor and emitted soft indifferent miaows as if to say to themselves—'Looks like a smash and grab fellow. Wonder what he is up to!'"

"This was the last straw, and I felt I was going to be a cat's-paw after all. After some repeated bangs I gave a final thrust which made a door go off its hinges and fall on a ceramic palm-pot inside with a terrific crash, smashing the ceramic in the process. This at last created some stir in the house. There was a padded scurry on the stairs mingled with muttered somnolent expletives. In half a minute an old man followed by three kittens skipping and capering between his legs, stood in front of me, measuring me with suspicious eyes from head to foot, then queried in chaste Oxonian—"What on earth is your message, pray?"

"Before I could mumble a few apologies to say that I was sorry that I had mistaken a Cats' Home for a Refugees' Home, and would he accept my regrets for prostrating the door and damaging (damaging indeed, the thing was now good enough for mosaic patterns on a floor!) the ceramic palm-pot, the old foggy rushed into an adjoining room and returned with a mighty dust-covered, leather-bound volume which he banged on a table. Then he forgot all about my presence and began turning over leaves after leaves while the kittens insisted upon sitting on every page he whisked open. He made a few notes here and there jotting down certain arithmetical figures on a receipt-book. Then he reckoned up the arithmetical figures (which seemed to me slightly short of astronomical) and produced a slip which read—'Received with thanks £10.0 Fils or Mills for damages caused to the property of Refugees' Home at X as per items in the inventory-book pp. 57.69 and 281', adding, 'Cash down please before we proceed any farther.'

THOSE OF OUR READERS WHO ENJOYED THE AUTHOR'S ROLICKING YARN ABOUT THE "BUGS WHICH BECAME A BUGBEAR" WILL WELCOME ITS SUCCESSOR ABOUT THE CATS WHICH ALL BUT BROUGHT DOWN CATASTROPHE UPON HIS HERO!

"Indeed, I could not proceed farther than the doorstep without handing over to him a cheque bearing the above figure, since as for receding, the way led to the local police station, another white-washed structure in the distance in whose direction that august manager of the establishment jerked a significant thumb.

"I was led up to a cubicle on the first floor by the old man followed by thirteen cats and nine kittens. These are to be your lodgings; not the kind of place one would like to spend one's honey-moon in, I'll admit, but we have to remember that there is a war on, and we've got to do the best of a bad job.—thus concluding his harangue the old man brushed off the ashes which had accumulated on the lapel of his jacket from his pipe and shambled away, obviously toddling off to bed to give a finishing touch to his siesta. The cats looked askance at me and at one another. Their faces wore an expression which was eloquent enough to convince me that they were making mental notes of certain phrases in their master's speech (which was probably a broad hint to them as to their future activities in relation to me). The words, as you'll see presently, were 'honey-moon', 'war' and 'a bad job.'

"And as such this catty yarn is going to fall under three what may be called charades for want of a better name, the first of which I shall call the 'honey-moon' episode. What with the long non-stop flight and what with the spot of exercise at the front-door I felt so knocked out that day that I decided to give myself a real busmen's holiday by having my meals in bed, and gave instructions to that effect to the Arab servant who brought my personal effects to the cubicle. On the intelligence that I was going to have an afternoon's nap I caught hold of the earthen pitcher and held it in a toppled position on his mouth, obviously drinking the contents. His

cheeks however began to bulge out larger and larger till they looked like the sides of a foot-ball. He stopped dead for a second and then ran about in the cubicle like a Malayan running amuck, spitting out the water from his mouth in very thin sprays. After he had repeated the process three times he gave me to understand by signs that the room was now thoroughly air-conditioned.

"I went to sleep. In fact I fell headlong into such abysmal coma that I might as well be dead and gone, since I didn't have the slightest consciousness of what had been happening in my cubicle for the last ten hours or so. I think I had a nightmare about some catty subject. I dreamed, or at least I thought dreamed, that cats had been playing havoc among my belongings and making good fare of my dinner. I woke up in a pool of perspiration to find the face of the full moon face-iously peeping into my room. It was a sort of moon which might have beamed upon Romeo flirting with Juliet. Not the kind made of green cheese one sees in Northern Europe. The nearest description would be that she was smeared with golden treacle or honey for that matter. A real 'honeyed' moon if there was any.

"While contemplating the beauty of Nature inundated with moon-light and humming to myself the hackneyed record tune 'Under the Texas Moon' I suddenly felt that there was some nondescript object lying on my breast like a load on one's chest so to say. Out of pure curiosity I directed a hand thither which came upon something solid and viscous. You never know what you may not encounter in tropical parts such as the one I was in; might be a polite krait calmly on my chest. So, very cautiously I struck a match, and raising my head to a safe distance what do I discover but a mutton outlet fried 'juste au point'! I jumped out of bed and put the light on. My bed presented the spectacle of a dining table

at which some drunkards had finished their revelry. There were fish-bones, bits of bread, pats of butter, vegetables and other edible strewn all over my bed.

I myself seemed to have added to the decoration, as in my precipitated movement out of bed I mashed a good few boiled potatoes and crushed a piece of plum pudding, which had been placed alongside of me when I was asleep. I further discovered the remains of three china plates, a teapot and a cup on the floor. As my eyes rested upon the table it was painfully driven home to me that the rubber stopper of my ink-bottle had been bitten off, and there was a stream of green fluid which flooding my books and documents had fallen in cascades on my suit-case. On opening the suit-case I discovered that my ducks and shirts had been dyed green free of charge. As I tried to piece the clues together in my mind and set about apprehending the culprit, about half a dozen kittens whisked away from under my bed and disappeared in the surrounding gloom. It was past midnight, and the whole house had passed from afternoon siesta to nightly slumber.

"Since it was against my principle to lose my temper at night I assumed a 'let the dead bury their dead' sort of attitude, and clearing my bed of the remnants of the catty bean-feast, prepared to go to sleep again. As I turned in however my eyes caught a glimpse of that 'honeyed' moon. This time her honeyed smile had taken on a sarcastic aspect. I felt she gave me a quick wink as much as to say that there was much in store for me. I had little notion then that she was the impresario of that night's show.

"Sleep had never presented itself as a problem in my life before. But by the time I had managed to take a draught or two of that blissful oblivion my consciousness gave a few jerks like a cart jolting on cobbles and returned to its wretched state. There was a concert on somewhere

under the date-palms in open air. The Moon had risen several feet towards the zenith and her smile had become thoroughly vicious.

"I could hear strains of melodies floating into the room, all female voices it seemed, contralto and soprano with a touch or two of tenor. As I lay awake wondering whether it was some far-away radio-station, might be from some enemy country, a female chorus preliminary to a propaganda speech, I was surprised to distinguish a few dissonant cat-calls within the chorus. My illusion however was broken by the chorus approaching nearer and nearer until I could recognise all the voices to be emanating from the bowels of cats. I do not know what fiendish motive brought them under my window. Imagine twenty-two voices of varying scales miaowing away just below one's window! I looked out and saw all the cats and kittens of the establishment, seated on the sand in a group with their backs to my cubicle and faces uplifted towards the Moon, singing high and singing low, singing hard and singing away.

"They had a refined way of getting upon your nerves. The monotonous chorus went on and on for a quarter of an hour, then flop, dead silence for a minute or two, and then a tom-cat's tenor giving the lead and off goes the chorus again. This time too I could not contain myself any longer, and began to look around for a solid object which readily presented itself to my hurrying glance in the shape of an old-fashioned clock within a glass case. With a murderous look in my eyes like the one worn by a Russian guerilla going for a Nazi I hurled the solid object at the cats. Then bang goes its worthy container. Then the ink-bottle darts out followed by my pair of slippers, the water-pitcher, the jug and wash-basin plus stand, the vine-gar-cruet, the drawers detached from the table and my hair-brush. And finally like a regular desperado I unscrewed the blades of the electric fan and flung them at the feline concert. Then having no other missiles near at hand I sat down exhausted on the window-sill and listened to whatever they had to sing to me, until towards the morning sleep soothed my tortured brow with her delicate fingers.

"The reception I had the next day at the lunch table (for I slept till lunch-time) from the other inmates of that establishment was far from happy. The Manager took me aside 'to have a word with me in private', and handed over another receipt to the amount of £17.275 Fils or Mills for damages caused to the property of etc. in which the item 'a clock and glass case' showed the figure of £10. The old man however took the matter in good humour giving me to understand that such incidents were not entirely unknown at the establishment, adding—'It's nerves you know, frayed by the war. A bit of unbolting doesn't do one any harm as long as one doesn't lose one's sense of proportions altogether. Had it not been sheer discretion on my part you would have had the local S.P.C.A. on you...' Indeed, you vood haff, monsieur', broke in a tiny female voice which drew my attention to its possessor.

"My look of surprise at the interpolation seemed to send her to hysterics. 'Ah oui, monsieur', she cried at the top of her tiny voice, rising from the table, 'on s'etonne zat a shentel-man should maltraiter les pauvres animaux muets (mute indeed!), zat at sree hours in zee mornink you vished to hunt zee kats ven zey s'amusaient paisiblement, yes? I keel you, I curse you I. I...' If it were within her power to ex-communicate me or roast my soul in hell-fire she would have gladly undertaken the job. Her Adam's apple popped up and down to keep time with the volubility of her expressions.

"That fair defender of the cause of cats wouldn't stop at anything. In her righteous indignation she in her turn smashed two plates, threw a poached egg on the floor-carpet and stood upon it probably imagining that she was standing upon a bad toe belonging to me, poured black coffee on the richly embroidered table-cloth, bashed three window-panes, and was taking aim at a side-board, when fearing that the entire show might be put down on my account I beat a hasty retreat. The lady now expressed herself freely in Rumanian or some such outlandish tongue as I seemed to hear 'Bucaresti, Bucaresti!' all the way up to my cubicle. No sooner had I reached my apartments than the manager appeared with another slip bearing the figure of £250 Fils or Mills, adding—'You won't mind this, will you? Just a pittance considering what you owe the establishment already.' To which

(Continued on Page 19)

Marshal Chiang's Sensational Book:

'CHINA'S DESTINY'

Imperialism Is The Cause Of War And Must Be Crushed, Says China's Leader

China's destiny is being decided at this moment. The imminent defeat of the Axis aggressors will see the emergence of a new and freer world. Remember this—China will be the proving ground of the ideals for which men of all Allied nations have been fighting and dying.

Our future is linked with that of the rest of the world. The success, failure, survival or death of democratic principles depends upon the sincere application of the Atlantic Charter. China is destined to become the laboratory where the postwar aims of the democracies will be put to their supreme test.

China is fighting this war not merely to regain her independence; she is fighting for more than the survival of her race. She desires the peace and freedom of all nations large and small. China wants this to be the last war, for she has probably suffered more at the hands of the aggressor than any other nation. China has been the victim of imperialist powers for more than 100 years. We realize that only by the complete independence of all nations only by mutual respect in international affairs, can permanent peace be assured.

Imperialism Is The Cause!

What is the cause of war? To answer the question frankly—imperialism is the cause of war. Therefore I maintain that the end of this war should mean the end of imperialism.

Since our Chinese race has suffered longest and deepest from imperialism, our request for freedom and equality is most anxious. The reason for this anxiousness is not as some of our doubting friends think that we want to be a leader in Asia.

At this juncture I want our own people as well as the nations of the world to be clear about two points: First, after China has attained independence and become strong, she will never put on the shoulders of other nations the suffering which she has had to bear. She will never be willing to follow in the footsteps of the Japanese imperialists. Second, to attain independence, China intends to stand on her own feet. She must strive to develop and improve her national defence, economics, political administration and her civilization as a whole.

This motive of China is not a selfish one. We simply wish to share in the responsibility for maintaining world peace and emancipating mankind. In other words, China is against the survival of imperialism and will never walk in its footsteps.

China intends to see to it, also, that the other peoples of Asia have opportunity for freedom and equality. We remember our own century of suffering at the hands of imperialists too acutely to sit back and ignore the fate of our fellow Asiatics. Do you realize how big Asia is and what a future it has? The area of Asia is a quarter of that of the whole world. The population of Asia is more than a third of that of the entire planet. Yet most of the Asiatic races have suffered as long and as much as China has. If China cannot become free and independent then all the tribes of Asia will remain under the cruel rule of Japan, and we cannot find a permanent world peace. Therefore, China's independence means a peaceful Asia. The freedom and equality of Asia guarantees the peace of the world.

When we Chinese say we hate imperialism, we speak from experience. For more than 100 years, my country has been bound in the chains of imperialism and aggression.

China became the fishpond of the world. All nations, large and small came and spread their nets



THE GENERALISSIMO
"Imperialism is the main cause of war!"

On this page we reproduce extracts from Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's sensational book "CHINA'S DESTINY" which makes a vigorous attack on imperialism and demands "freedom and equality" for all the people of Asia.

over our land, our economy, and our national life. All of them enriched themselves by exploiting and undermining our national independence. The inexperience of our people in the ways of imperialism and power politics made them easy prey.

"Treaties" Or Bondage?

China's national disgrace and bondage began with signing of the first of the "Unequal Treaties." This was the so-called Nanking Treaty between Great Britain and China—the direct result of the disastrous defeat China suffered in the Opium Wars. Under the terms, China ceded the island of Hong Kong to Britain, and agreed to opening five ports to foreign residence and commerce—Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai. Also, China granted Britain the right to appoint consuls who were given extraterritorial jurisdiction, and nationals of foreign powers were given unlimited opportunity in trade and commerce.

Later Britain, France and the others, taking further advantage of the ignorance of the diplomats of the Ching dynasty, expanded and added to their privileges.

Example of this is the foreign concession, which became an accomplished fact before China was even asked to agree to it. This was but one excess arising from the privileges granted by the Nanking Treaty.

What was the result? Because the foreign powers were able to direct Chinese trade and commerce, as well as control the inland ports of the Yangtze Valley, they were able to flood the Chinese market with foreign consumer goods. Also, Chinese-made goods became dependent upon foreign vessels for transportation even inside China.

During this period, the foreign powers established several foreign

concessions on their own initiative, without waiting for Chinese approval. These concessions included the international settlement and French concession of Shanghai; the British concessions of Yingkow, Hankow, Kiukiang, Chingkiang, Amoy, the British and French concessions of Tientsin Canton and the international settlement of Chefoo.

The authority taken by the consuls was originally meant to give them power to deal with people, and not with areas. But with the establishment of these concessions the interpretation changed. From then on, foreign countries took over sovereign power in these areas. "This amounted to the establishment of numerous small, independent countries within China."

The treaties further gave foreign gunboats the right to navigate in Chinese waters, and to anchor in Chinese ports. Foreign gunboats had already been navigating in Chinese coastal waters and inland rivers, but the Tientsin Treaty made this legal. Thus, China was deprived of any coastal defence. Our big ports and cities were put under the "gunboat policy" of Western imperialism.

After that, whenever there was any diplomatic argument, the gunboats of the foreign powers could take off the covers on the guns and force the Chinese Government to consent to the "requests" of the foreign diplomats.

China had been defeated by Japan. The foreign powers hurrying to take advantage of her weakness, began a wild competitive scramble for the partition of China into leased territories. Each foreign country tried to establish its own sphere of influence through the erection of barracks, construction of harbors for exclusive military use, construction of railways, and the exploitation of Chinese resources and mines.

Britain's Role

Hong Kong, Formosa, Indo-China, Burma and Korea, one after the other had fallen subject to foreign rule. China proper was faced with the danger of actual partition by the various foreign powers. The reason for this wholesale grab in China was the defeat by Japan. Japan annexed Korea. One after another, the other powers rushed in to follow suit.

(1) Great Britain. After Britain annexed Hong Kong, she obtained Weihaiwei and Kowloon as leased territories; and together with Russia marked the Yangtze as her own restricted territory within which she alone was to build railways. At the same time, certain private British firms secured rights to open mines in Shansi and Honan.

(2) France. The French annexed Indo-China, then extracted a promise from the Ching dynasty never to release Hainan territory to other countries. A year later, France obtained a similar promise with regard to the provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Yunnan. Like Britain, she also reserved the exclusive right for the construction of certain railways. In her case it was the Yunnan-Indo-China Railway. She obtained the right to open mines in the three provinces. Within another 12 months, she secured Kwang-

chow as her leased territory.

(3) Germany. Germany grabbed Kiaochow as her leased territory and obtained rights to open and operate mines within a radius of 30 miles along the Kiaochow Railroad.

(4) Czarist Russia. The imperial government of Czarist Russia placed the three north-eastern provinces under its influence. And it obtained Port Arthur and Dairen under lease. Besides this, as I mentioned Russia and Britain divided the Yangtze Valley into separate spheres of influence.

(5) Japan. After the annexation of Korea, Japan obtained the island of Formosa. Next, Japan forced the Ching Government to guarantee not to let the province of Fukien and the neighbouring coastal districts ever fall under the influence of any of the other powers.

Collapse Of China's Political Life

This division of China by the various powers into autonomous spheres of influence was the forerunner of the partition of China. Eventually it brought about the collapse of my country's political life. The foreign concessions and the spheres of influence caused a conflict of authority. This resulted in the breakdown of Chinese administration. Gradually, this administration was usurped by the foreign powers.

Now we had a situation in which foreign commerce was able to produce and distribute its products under a highly industrialized and efficient system. These products were thrown into competition with China's own domestic commodities, produced under practically primitive conditions. How could China compete even for her own internal market? This was the final blow to my country's independence.

But that was just the first phase of an international struggle between the various powers. The result was the proclamation of the "Open Door Policy," under which even the last vestiges of China's independence were swept away.

Erection of factories and industrial plants had stepped up the competition between the different national groups. This commercial competition led to an alliance between Great Britain and Japan. Czarist Russia viewed this as a threat, and allied herself with France.

The scramble for the free markets of China, which was strangling Chinese economy, led to the American proclamation of the Open Door Policy. This policy was approved by Great Britain. But neither Russia nor Japan were willing to give up possession of the Liaotung Peninsula and the north-eastern provinces.

Conflict of interests culminated in the Russo-Japanese War. This war, fought on Chinese soil—brought untold suffering to our people, cost millions of lives, and resulted in Japan emerging a conqueror.

Immediately after their victory in 1905, the Japanese began preparing for the eventual conquest of the whole continent of Asia.

End Of The Monarchy

During this period of internal collapse, the Chinese people lost the last bit of lingering respect they had for the Ching dynasty. Defeat of Russia by Japan made a deep impression on both the Chinese Government and people. The Ching Government made a last attempt at reform. But this did not conceal from the people the inherent rottenness in the official administration. Revolutionary movements sprang up and discontent became daily more evident.

The Government, sensing the discontent sweeping through the country, adopted repressive measures. Whatever rights were left to Chinese nationals were revoked. A reign of terror began. Thousands of Chinese were imprisoned and put to death. But the movement, now inspired by our National Father, Sun Yat-sen, spread like a prairie fire through the country and the people took heart in it.

Thus the uprising in Wuchang on October 10, 1911, spread through the country. The Ching emperor abdicated.

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The Indian Press: NEWSPAPERS OR VIEWS-PAPERS?

By B. R. K. BHATNAGAR

Very often is the criticism heard that Indian newspapers are mere political news-sheets excluding as they do, political fervour day in and day out.

On the face of it the criticism appears well-founded, for shorn of all political news and views they carry from day to day, our newspapers, particularly the nationalist group of them, will look blank and meaningless. But a closer study will show that Indian newspapers, being the newspapers of a subject people, cannot but remain preoccupied with politics and as such engaged in a constant campaign of teaching, preaching and prophesying in the cause of country's freedom.

Views-Papers?

Before a detailed answer is attempted, it will be found on analysis that the allegation has three clear-cut implications: In the first place it may refer to the lack of human interest stories in the Press—stories dealing with the condition and behaviour of mankind in different circumstances and with different motives. Secondly it may mean an absence or paucity of subjects of enduring academic interest and problems of international character, discussed in the Indian press, and treated, if discussed at all, without a definite political bias. Finally, it may take the shape of a blunt remark that Indian newspapers are engaged in carrying on too much political propaganda and as such cease to be newspapers; they are view-papers in disguise.

"News Of The (Under-) World"

The first charge can better be examined in relation to the Press in England and America from where I quote one instance each. Adol Myres formerly of "Times of India", Bombay in the collection of his broadcasts attractively entitled "How to Be a Journalist?" gives the story of the "News of the World", "which has a circulation of more than 3,000,000 copies, the 'largest' in the world barring none". A typical issue of this English newspaper, he tells us gave 8 columns to the news of political and economic interest, 18 columns to sport and 25 columns to news of criminal and passionate interest including matrimonial troubles (divorce, bigamy, abduction etc., robbery, theft, assaults (including indecent assaults), murder, manslaughter, fraud, false pretences, forgery and blackmail etc. etc. This is one side of the picture as reflected by the 'largest' circulated British newspaper. The other is represented by the Hearst newspapers of America which have built up their circulation—and reputation too—on what is nicknamed as "yellow journalism". They have a circulation larger than any other serious kind of newspaper in America and are well known for their cheap sensational stories. After giving the detailed list of the kind of events reported by the "News of the world", I need not recount to my readers what else cheap sensational stories may mean in the case of Hearst newspapers of America.

If these are what is meant by the "human interest stories", I—rather we, including those of my profession and country—seek to make no amends. We would suffer, without a grouse or a grumble, the charge rather than publish the so-called "Human"—or, more appropriately speaking, are they inhuman? interest stories! Our readers have neither time nor energy to read them. In a country like ours—buried deep in illiteracy, the readers have altogether a different ideal before them. They have to be trained to become good citizens and as such their interest and attention has to be switched off from mere police court stuff to much more constructive and healthier subjects.

'A man is what he eats', is an age old adage. That a man is what he reads is equally true; for was it not the Lord Bishop of Lahore who while delivering the convocation address of the Punjab University last year observed: "What a man reads in his leisure time, apart from what he reads for the examination, is really the touchstone of taste...." If the taste of our readers is not to be degenerated into what may be compared to that of "4-anna cinema-goers", we have deliberately to shut out all such material from our news-columns.

But all newspapers are not alike. There exist in America and England as elsewhere, a more serious type of newspapers as well. My critics will, therefore, confront me with a question here. It is the class of readers, they will say, for whom a particular newspaper is produced, which determines the kind of news it will give. Evidently the "News of the world" and the Hearst Newspapers mentioned by me cater to the needs of those who after strenuous, toilsome and breathless labour of more than half a dozen hours in the noisy factories and dark underground mines feel

hungry for passionate stories. Without such stories my critics will argue the man-machines—for the workers are nothing short of machines when they work in conjunction with the steel-machines, feeling neither the heat of the furnace nor the suffocation of the atmosphere—will lose all contact with life and their own lives will be reduced to simple soulless drudgery, I agree. Moral obligations, apart, there may be some justification for publishing these stories elsewhere. But in India conditions are different.

In the first place there are no newspaper-barring one or two—which cater exclusively to the needs of the labourer. But even if there were—and indeed when there are—they will not be tolerated to stoop so low as to vulgarise the popular mind. Ours is essentially the country of the Orient, with a distinctive culture, and character of its own. A different social structure different from the west is the basis of our lives and a different sense of values pervades our activities. All attempts to cross the limits of decency prescribed by our existing society will be resented greatly. So long as our social conceptions remain unchanged, we cannot afford to introduce the police court in our columns on a scale it is done elsewhere. Nay, even a change in our social outlook is not certain to be followed with a like change in our attitude towards crime stories. Ours is a subject country; and as such newspapers exist, not merely to provide

man interest, but the cheap sensational stories that our newspapers lack in and for this we have no regrets.

Meant For Average Man

The second charge—viz. Indian newspapers devote very little space to subjects of general academic interest and problems of international character, and treat these subjects, if at all they discuss them, not without a definite political bias—has two aspects. The first refers to paucity of such articles and features, in the Indian press and the second to their treatment, as implied in the words 'not without a definite political bias', by the newspapers.

That the newspapers devote less attention and space too to them should be admitted; and for obvious reasons. Unlike the "Times", of London our newspapers, do not cater exclusively for a high and intelligent class of readers. They are meant for the average man. And in a dependent country, the average reader who is too much—at least more than this fellow worker born and brought up in a free atmosphere—pre-occupied with the problem of earning a livelihood has neither time nor energy to read and appreciate these articles which are essentially meant to be studied at leisure and for pleasure sake. This is responsible, to some extent, for the lack of enough of articles appearing in the Indian Press.

To the extent however to which the average Indian readers can or should take interest in their study, the articles are published invariably in

Are Indian newspapers just political news-sheets, lacking in the spicy "human interest" stories of the British and American journals?

Our contributor answers this charge and contends that politics being the life-breath of a subject nation, the Indian press is serving as a "mirror of the nation" by devoting its major attention to political developments.

entertainment to our readers but also to educate them for the struggle for independence.

Politics Is Their Mission

Now that I have referred to the fact of the classes of readers determining the kind of news a newspaper gives, let me also discuss the position with regard to the more serious and sober type of newspapers. In this connection it may at once be stated that our newspapers do not lag behind any responsible newspaper of any other country, in introducing human interest element in their columns wherever necessary. This is only conditioned by the fact that in a dependent country like ours, the very conception of newspapers is different. Politics is their mission, and they fall much short of our expectations if, as I shall show later they display slackness in that missionary zeal. The frequent references to the Harijan uplift work the reports of tragic scenes enacted in the streets of Calcutta during the famine, the stories of Behar and Quetta earthquake victims, more recently the tale of woe of the Burma evacuees who crossed into the Indian land frontier, and to thousand other episodes often met with in the columns of Indian dailies—particularly those representing the nationalist group of them—are replete with human interest and a glowing tribute to the sympathy the Fourth Estate in India has for the welfare of its people. Nay, even continued subjection has not dulled our interest in the animals, let alone the question of interest in human beings. It was only the other day that an ape found in the body of a 18 feet python bagged by a hunter in the 'Assam forests made first class story for the front pages of newspapers. Very recently there was another story of a monkey having picked up a bundle of currency or promissory notes from the neighbourhood of a bank where a peon had brought them to be deposited. Even the details as to how the monkey was tearing the notes to pieces and other peons were picking them up for their "fellow peon" were fully emphasised. A woman burning herself alive on the pyre of her deceased husband even in contravention of Lord William Bentinck's prohibition of 'Suttee' and a cobra coming out accidentally of a hole and biting a scoundrel who was running with a kidnapped lady, unfailingly excite as much interest in India as elsewhere. It is not the ha-

the Weekly (Sunday) editions and on occasions when their publication is warranted. If still it is felt that Indian newspapers do not come to the standard of foreign newspapers, so far this aspect of journalism is concerned, the blame should fall on the quality of education an Indian youth receives, rather than on the newspaper. With the standard of education rising and its tone improving the newspapers must of needs serve their readers the 'intellectual food' that is more palatable to them. At present the papers are satisfied with what they give to their readers; according to his appetite and requirements. At times, of course, as I said before they serve him even with heavier dish—in the shape of discussion on a higher intellectual plane—in an effort to keep his knowledge upto date but at the same time taking care to avoid 'indigestion'.

Strictly speaking it is not the function of daily newspapers to specialise in the publication of articles. Beyond dealing with them in their Sunday issues etc. they should do nothing more. It is the work of periodicals and monthlies to devote their pages to the discussion of problems of enduring interest. A daily newspaper with its preoccupation with a host of day to day events, cannot do more than take a passing notice of them, unless in special cases, it is called upon to pursue the subject at length in public interest. Elsewhere the work of the daily press is supplemented by a number of magazines, periodicals and monthlies. In India, where journalism is not yet an old established profession the number of such periodicals is very limited. With the growth of literacy and increase in the number of reading public more of such periodicals will be coming out and when this stage is reached even the daily newspapers will be increasing their attention to this branch of journalism.

Not Propaganda But Political Education

The second part of the charge relating to the treatment of subjects also cannot be denied. We generally find that an article starting with a court case often ends in the demand for a national government or another beginning with the toll of famine in Bengal does not conclude without making an effective appeal for the release of political prisoners. Even subjects of international character not having a direct bearing on this country are looked at from political angle and turned into an opportunity to

tear the Government policy to pieces. This is what is meant when our newspapers are accused of not discussing subjects on a purely academic or journalistic basis or what amounts to the same thing "not without a political bias."

But this should not be a cause of disappointment. The explanation is simple. Politics is our life-breath, and politics of a different sort too, politics involving a constitutional warfare with a Government which has pitched up its camp very deep in the Indian soil. Our aim is to get rid of that government and for that we agitate. We are born amidst agitation, we live amidst agitation and we even die amidst agitation. Our newspapers do the same thing and in so doing find no escape from having a political bias and preaching political ideals. This brings me to the charge No. 3—too much political propaganda is carried on by the press—a discussion of which will also include a reply to this objection.

Too much of political propaganda is carried on by the Indian press! Here I must pause a while to warn my critics. No self-respecting Indian will admit this charge at its face value and without amends. While 'pleading guilty' to the spirit, he would protest against the form of it. "Do not call it propaganda, it is political education," he would say. "It is the political education we seek to impart to the masses in respect of our programme of India's freedom—and not propaganda." Every political party everywhere does it particularly during the election campaign. But in India the heat does not subside with the elections. It goes on perpetually because the ultimate aim of independence remains unfulfilled and to that end the political parties of India must go on airing and publicising their programme whether you call it propaganda or education of the "masters" to use the famous phrase. I have no quarrel for words. Let me pass on to the more substantial part of the charge. Is it really too much of propaganda that our newspapers are carrying on?

Lord Riddell calls a newspaper a "mirror of the nation." What is the Indian nation, one asks—except a down-trodden, exploited, illiterate people seething perpetually with discontent and struggling ceaselessly for the emancipation from an alien rule. What else will our mirrors, the Indian newspapers, then show except the pictures thus reflected? Our economies, our education, our industries, our means of communication—all are planned to suit an alien government and for a people, even more alien. The newspapers bring home to us the truth that the only remedy is independence, nothing but complete independence and they are pledged for it. But what are the means to achieve independence. Fate has left none in our hands. We can't afford to and need not be violent. For the greatest of revolutions have been bloodless. Agitation, endless agitation, agitation—constitutional and non-violent—is our war-cry. Newspapers are but one weapon in helping us agitate.

They perform a host of other functions as well. There is an army of political workers—call them soldiers, if you like—in the field actively carrying on a constitutional warfare with rulers. Newspapers are their mouth-piece. But how to supply recruits to this army? Newspapers again have their part to play. They educate; they propagate, they bring home to the masses the need of enlisting themselves in an ever-increasing number for the struggle for freedom. And who keeps the morale of this army amidst all frustrations, disappointments, adverse and even occasional defeats—as indeed there are triumphs—against the "enemy." Our newspapers tell us: Be up and doing! Win we shall!! Ultimate Victory will be ours!! In these circumstances if the newspapers appear to others—perhaps those who say so lack insight into and sympathy for Indian affairs—mere political news sheets, excluding political fervour day in and day out, we can't help it. The very conception of a newspaper in our country is different. The newspapers have to become as much viewpapers as they are expected to be newspapers. It is inevitable for them, placed as they are. It is rather a praise than blame to call them "mere political news-sheets" and a tribute to what I call their self-imposed duty of work for country's welfare. I am here aptly reminded of an interesting episode. The all-India Women's Conference is also faced with a similar criticism. The Conference has among its aim the raising of the intellectual standard of Women of India and in so doing cannot leave the growth of political consciousness among them out of its programme. But the moment it does so the organisation is dubbed as a political one.

Clarifying this position, Mrs. Kamini Devi Chattopadhyaya in her presidential address of the Conference at Bombay last April said: "To a subject people politics is its very life breath. To deny that urge is to deny life. To formulate political sensitiveness into an accusation is to charge the organisation for being alive...." With

(Continued on Page 17)

Recce Over The Chindwin

By MAJOR M. T. BOOTH

"Tomorrow you will be on the airstrip at 08.30 hours and will fly on reconnaissance over the Chindwin. Further details will be given you tonight." At last I was to see the river which we had all talked about for months.

For over three weeks British Chindit Columns of General Wingate's Forces bearing their heavy packs, had been cutting their way mile by mile through dense jungle, up and down knife-edge ridges as much as 8,000 ft. high—up and down hills so steep and slippery with rain that mules fell down and men had to carry the animals' loads.

At irregular intervals food had been dropped, frequently in difficult country where there was no flat area for drops; often the parachutes had to be shot down from trees; sometimes precious food fell down the hillside hundreds of feet below, and three days' rations had to do for five or more. Some days the mists on the hills were so bad that the 'planes couldn't contact the columns and belts had to be tightened a few more holes.

Unknown To The Japanese

All this had to be undergone in order to approach the Chindwin by a route unknown to the Japanese, and never before crossed by troops, the object being to get behind the enemy's communications, destroy his dumps and, by creating a diversion draw off troops resisting the Forces moving into Burma from the North, which General Stilwell then commanded.

Now the columns were within two days of the river, crossing, and everyone's thoughts were on the great adventure. Would the river be fast and deep, making crossing slow and dangerous? Would the banks be steep and approaches difficult for mules and bullocks? Would the Jap be waiting ready in ambush or would he interrupt the crossing? How could boats be supplied, and would it be possible to evacuate the sick by air?

I arrived at the strip at 08.20 and was joined by two others. We discussed the weather from a flying point of view. Clouds seemed low and we had bad country to fly over; also the 'plane coming to pick us up had difficult mountains to cross. It arrived at 09.30 filled with men of Colonel Cochran's Air Commandos, 'plane and glider pilots, in part flying part jungle kit. Every man seemed to carry two weapons and all had jungle knives. Several had grown beards. We all carried hard rations—just in case.

Our job was to find a good place for gliders to land by the side of the river at a suitable crossing point. An area of about 3/10 miles towards which the columns were making was given, and in this area our selection had to be made.

No time could be spent lingering over the area and we had to look to anyone who might see us as if we were uninterested in that spot and were making for somewhere else.

Sighting The Chindwin

The east side of the river was occupied by Japanese; so also were certain places on the west side. As we had no armament, no

armour and no escort, we decided to keep well to the west till we approached our goal then we hoped that no Zeros or Japanese Ack-Ack would interfere.

We took off and circled for a time to gain the necessary height to get over the surrounding hills. Then we headed north. Over the dense jungle, with no signs of native habitation, and over the seemingly impenetrable mountains it was easy to realise what a task the land columns were having to get through. Air pockets and cross currents made the 'plane feel more like a ship on a rough sea.

The clouds cleared and it grew colder and colder. We stamped up and down to get warm and someone shouted "Look, there's snow." Sure enough to our left was a mountain peak about 18,000 feet high, startlingly white amidst the dark jungle green around. We now began to drop lower, and hoped to approach the river by a tributary, flying so low that the steep ridges on each side would conceal our approach to the bending river, and hide our get away.

"The 'Chindwin!'" Men shouted the name above the noise of our engines. Here was the goal to which months of planning had led us. Everyone rushed—rather unwisely—to one side to peer out and not miss a second of our short glimpse of the river. We were only about 100 feet above it.

It looked so peaceful and quiet, that it was hard to imagine bitter fighting might take place there in a few days' time. One man swore he saw someone throw himself down as we flew over, but whether a Japanese or not, or just imagination we never knew.



Men of a column of British Chindits find time to read their mail dropped to them with their food and supplies during the long trek to the Chindwin river.

We were over a sandbank we had noted on my map. It looked firm and not stepped, wide enough, long enough to land on with a glider, and possibly even with a light 'plane. A good ridge on the far side bank, if held by our troops, would afford good protection for those crossing. The banks on either side were not too sheer for getting mules in and out of the water.

Further on we found an even larger sandbank, and the glider pilots wanted to land there, but as there was not much difference in the two from a flying point of view, the preference was given to the first bank which fulfilled all military requirements.

The glider boys described their task as a "piece of cake."

On we went, and finally circled west and then south for our base. We flew over the country where the British columns were marching but not a sign of them could we see. The ground was so rough and knife-edged and went up and down at such steep gradients that one man said he was sure some of those boys down below would have one leg shorter than the other as they must be marching with one foot on the ridge and the other on the slope all the time.

We afterwards heard that one of the men in the columns said, "After the war I won't walk up any stairs again I'll live in a bungalow and it won't have a front door step either!"

The next thing was to tie up arrangements with those on the ground and I asked the glider



Rations have been issued and one of the British Chindit columns awaits the order to move off.

British Chindits, hacking their way through the Burma Jungle to take in the rear Japanese forces then attacking General Stilwell, were approaching the River Chindwin, goal of many months' planning. All now depended on its successful crossing. Here is the account of an army officer who flew on the all-important reconnaissance trip.

out of the way of each succeeding one to prevent "piling up."

When We Reached The Base

As soon as we reached our base wireless messages were sent out, reporting our good fortune and fixing up all details. The glider boys went back to wait for their signal to fly in.

In due course the signal came through. The columns were ready to cross. The gliders took off. They had volunteered to take all that was required knowing that they were going over mountains bad enough for flying, quite apart from gliding with no escort, no armament, with their escape door blocked and knowing that their destination was in Japanese-occupied territory.

As everyone knows, they made it. The British columns crossed without a hitch or a casualty, and General Wingate sent his congratulations. "Hannibal eclipsed", said he!

Mountains, forests, and a major river were crossed with men, weapons, and mules. Medical supplies and food were dropped, and casualties evacuated by light 'plane. General Wingate flew in and saw his men, but the columns never stopped; cutting hacking, sweating and cursing, always moving on to strike the enemy where it would hurt most.

Surprise was still their ally and speed was still essential. The gliders were taken off, the day after they had arrived; they had played a tremendous part in the face of tremendous risks.

A few days later they made their epic landing on the "Broadway" landing strip in another part of Burma, this time carrying troops.

To all these men General Wingate's words in his order of the day were apt: "This is not the moment, when such an advantage has been gained to count the cost. This is a moment to live in history. It is an enterprise in which every man who takes part may feel proud one day to say, 'I was there!'"

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PILLAR OF THE UNIONIST PARTY

LATE CHAUDHARY SIR CHHOTU RAM

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT)

With the death of Sir Chhotu Ram seems to have come to an end a stirring epoch in the history of Punjab Unionism. In him the party has lost an indefatigable worker, chief spokesman and untiring propagandist.

He was a peasant by birth and in all his public and political life strove hard to serve that class. He fought reactionism in every form and shape. He was the friend of the zamindars, and the masses of the province will remember with gratitude the many acts of legislation which were enacted in the provincial assembly through his persevering championing of their interests and fearless exposure of the money-lenders' zulum.

He was against the Muslim League and the doctrine of Pakistan. He declared once that "this spectre (Pakistan), unless given a quick and effective burial, will create an unending vicious circle."

He was alike opposed to the Hindu Maha Sabha and the Congress, to the former because it was a communal organisation, and he eschewed all religion from politics, and to the latter because he could not support the principle of non-cooperation and did not believe in the practicability of non-violence on a mass scale. His ideal was a united India, in which the peasants, the backbone of the country's prosperity, were free from the oppression of debt and the exploitation of the money-lender.

Sir Sikandar's Tribute

No better tribute to Sir Chhotu Ram's work could be paid than in the words of his former chief late Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, who, on the occasion of the former's sixty-first birthday said: "For many years to come Punjab would need no other leader. The work done by Chaudhary Sahab is of such fundamental character, that the coming generations need only to walk straight on the path laid out by him."

Born in 1881 in a small peasant proprietor's family in the village of Garhi Sampla, in Rohtak District, twenty-eight miles west of Delhi, Ram Richpal, so was called the young precocious boy, who began to be called Chhotu later, being the youngest of the brothers—was sent to school by the parents primarily to keep him engaged so as to avoid unseemly scenes with village urchins rather than with the idea of giving him education.

In 1899, he passed the Middle School Examination, standing second in the order of merit in the Province. The young boy was keen on continuing his studies further, but his father, Chaudhary Sukhi Ram, considered higher education for him was wholly unnecessary and even wasteful. He decided to have his son employed either as a *patwari* or as a police constable. Young Chhotu, however, thought otherwise, and when the father refused to spend on the son's education, Chhotu Ram went to his uncle who recognised his talent and helped him in his higher studies.

Secretary To Raja

The boy battled his way, and despite financial difficulties, took the B.A. Degree in 1905. He joined the M.A. class, but owing to the death of his father, had to look out for employment. He became private assistant secretary to the Raja of Kalakankar on a low salary, but left the job after a few months as the atmosphere did not suit him. He came to Lahore and became a teacher. In 1907, he again joined the Raja as Superintendent of Education in his State. He took the law degree from Agra in 1911 and started practice as a lawyer in the same town and soon became very popular among

the Jats. Next year he moved to his home district town of Rohtak.

When World War I broke out, Chhotu Ram became honorary secretary of the District Recruiting Committee. In 1916, he became the honorary editor of the "Jat Gazette" at Rohtak. He realised that for the political and economic progress of the Zamindars, it was essential that they should be brought together on a common platform, without the distinctions of caste and religion.

Association With Congress

In August 1916, Chaudhary Chhotu Ram was awarded the title of Rao Sahib in recognition of his services in military recruiting.

Early in 1917 a District Congress Committee was organised in Rohtak, and he was made president. He propagated Congress programme in the "Jat Gazette" and invited educated members of the Jat community to join the Congress. Paradoxically enough, he held the opinion that the Jats, as a community, should keep aloof from the Congress, as he regarded it suicidal for a backward and illiterate community to fight on two fronts simultaneously. He thought it wiser to concentrate on a front where success could be obtained more easily and with lesser effort.

About the same time was formed the Punjab Zamindar Association of Hindu and Sikh Jats and Chhotu Ram worked wholeheartedly for it. In the 1919 Reforms, the Zamindars were given their share in the public services and the rural constituencies were separated from urban. This was largely due to the joint efforts of Chaudhary Chhotu Ram and Chaudhary Lal Chand.

In 1919, a durbars was held at Rohtak to reward those who had helped in the war effort. Chhotu Ram was awarded four acres of land.

In 1920 he left the Congress when it decided upon non-cooperation. And three years later, he was elected to the Punjab Legislative Council and remained a Minister from 1924 to 1926.

Wholehearted Work

He was returned to the Council again in 1926, and though not a Minister this time, he devoted all his attention to the organisation of the Zamindars League and undertook extensive tours in province to popularise the League programme. As his whole time was taken up by his increasing political and public activities, he neglected his professional work and his legal practice almost disappeared. He was obsessed with certain ideas and ideals and had no mind to amass a fortune. His gaze was fixed on the down-trodden sections of the community.

Chhotu Ram clearly saw that the greatest obstacle in the way of organising the zamindars was communalism which interested people were using as a smokescreen on religion to beguile the peasantry. He decided to organise them on the basis of a non-religious, non-sectarian and economic programme. The Unionist Party had, however, been founded on this principle but its programme needed exposition. This Chhotu Ram did from the platform and in the Press continuously.

His efforts infused a new life in the Zamindar movement. He made vigorous efforts and started agitation both inside and outside the Legislative Council to protect the interests of the zamindars. He suggested a drastic cut in Government expenses. He wanted to relieve the peasantry from the unbearable burden of taxation and aimed at providing them relief from indebtedness. He wrote a series of articles which created a stir both among the officials and non-officials in the Punjab, and the influence was felt in other provinces and even by the Government of India.

Moving Spirit Of Unionists

In 1936, Chaudhary Chhotu Ram was elected President of the Punjab

Legislative Council and was knighted.

With the introduction of provincial autonomy, in 1937, the Unionist Party returned to the Assembly with a great majority, and to this success of the party, Sir Chhotu Ram contributed in no small measure.

In 1937, he became a Minister and remained so until his death. He was the moving spirit behind the achievements of the Unionist Party all these years. He laboured by day and night at his desk, planning legislation for the uplift of the peasantry and the backward people in both urban and rural areas. He undertook extensive tours and moved about from one end of the province to other regardless of heat or cold.

His industry, perseverance and singlemindedness of purpose in promoting the welfare of the agriculturist classes have been acknowledged by friends and foes alike.

Enemy Of Moneylenders

Sir Chhotu Ram's life had been a long battle against adverse circumstances. He was not only intimately familiar with the life of the underdog, but in his early life, had experiences which left an indelible mark on his mind. There is a story about young Chhotu Ram. Once he accompanied his father to a money-lender of the village with whom he had certain dealings. The money-lender flung the punka (fan) cord towards his father, asking him to pull it. This infuriated Chhotu Ram and he insisted that the money-lender's son, who happened to be present, should pull the punka. On another occasion, Chhotu Ram was told to sit on the floor near the moneylender's charpoy. These incidents made him bitter against the trading and money-lending classes who, during his public life, were highly critical of him.

As a lawyer he mixed freely with the zamindars. One day he was seen enjoying the hookah with some of them in the compound of the bar room. This aroused the spleen of the whole legal fraternity who considered it a humiliation of the profession and insult to their self-respect. The Bar Association passed a resolution condemning Chhotu Ram's action and calling for an explanation of his extraordinary conduct.

His reaction was characteristic of the man. He said that he did not care an iota if the dignity of the bar had suffered in any way by his mixing with the zamindars who were his brothers, as his mission in life was to raise the status of the people amongst whom he was born. After this incident the zamindars were treated with more consideration by the lawyers.

Divorced Religion From Politics

Incidents such as these, though small in themselves, influenced the shaping and moulding of Chhotu Ram's political and social convictions. In the early stages, a conflict was going on in his mind between sectarianism, communalism and nationalism.

This he recorded in his diary as follows: "In the beginning, I was a fairly bigoted Arya Samajist, and, as a natural corollary, a communalist. This conflicted with my aspirations for a united front among the zamindars (in the Punjab sense of the term) regardless of caste or creed. I was definitely a bigoted Jat and a bigoted Zamindar and thus a sectarian. This conflicted with my conviction that a backward class—and the class to which I belonged was definitely a backward class—cannot afford to fight against the Government. This inner conflict set me a difficult problem to solve. After prolonged and careful consideration, I discovered a solution which, to my mind, was perfectly satisfactory. The solution was that 'religion must be divorced from politics and political organisations must proceed on the basis of economic interests.' So he decided 'to relegate religion to its proper place in private life.' He further wrote: 'Agricultural classes are the most numerous sec-

tion of the Indian humanity. They provide, at least in the Punjab, ready elements for bringing into existence a powerful well-knit unit of political organisation. If organised on the basis of community of economic interests, they will bring about communal harmony, first in the Punjab and then by the contagion of example in the whole of India, and thus lay the foundation of the country's political salvation."

Chowdhry Chhotu Ram left the Congress in 1920 when Mahatma Gandhi started the non-cooperation movement. He stated his reason for severing his connection with the Congress thus: "I never believed and never can believe that any campaign of non-cooperation on a really wide scale would remain peaceful or non-violent even in action. Non-violence in word or thought is possible only among angels and we all know that the general body of men are anything else but angels. Denial of law and non-payment of taxes are, to my mind, on a par with armed revolt and lay the axe at the root of those fundamental principles on which the structure of human society rests. They must inevitably result in violence, bloodshed—chaos and confusion."

Sir Chhotu Ram was also opposed to the Hindu Mahasabha, as he claimed, he did not believe in communal organisations. He believed in organising classes on an economic basis.

Opponent Of Pakistan

He was vehemently opposed to the Pakistan scheme of the Muslim League, and his opposition to the League was more marked towards the end of his life.

He wrote on one occasion: "As a mere name, Pakistan need not give a fright to anybody. But with its new associations, ever-widening scope and sinister implications, it may well disturb the equanimity of all Indians who look forward to the emergence of a strong, united and self-governing India, and although Pakistan may be a mere pawn in the game of political settlement, the serious misgivings and doubts which the scheme has already generated and which its further developments are likely to multiply and accentuate, will do incalculable harm all round."

"To me, this spectre of 'Muslim and non-Muslim majorities' prosecuting and tyrannising over the minorities is no more than, a clever device to rehabilitate the leadership of politicians who are fast losing hold and to reinforce the rule of vested interests which are beginning to totter under the impact of new forces. In any case, this spectre, unless given a quick and effective burial, will create an unending vicious circle."

Sir Chhotu Ram was also opposed to the "Azad Punjab" scheme of the Akalis, which aims at the division of the Punjab in such a way that none of the three principal communities, Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs, would be in a statutory majority in any part. He considered the scheme as wholly against the interests of nationalism and patriotism and as an invitation for the disintegration of the country.

Future Prospects Of Ministry

How far Sir Chhotu Ram was responsible for keeping the present Punjab Premier, Malik Khizar Hayat Khan, the official leader of the Unionist Party, from surrendering to Mr. Jinnah and the Muslim League, later events can only show, but it can be stated with a fair degree of accuracy that but for Sir Chhotu Ram's role, the retreat of Mr. Jinnah from the Punjab last April might as well have not occurred. Since then, developments have occurred with speed in the Punjab politics. The breach between the Unionist Party and the Muslim League has become wider and wider. A group of young Muslim Unionists have since broken away from the Unionist Party and formed a bloc of twenty-five members in the Punjab Assembly, sitting on the opposition benches.

But the Khizar Ministry may be able to pull through the wartime without any serious threat from the Muslim League in view of its numerical superiority in the Assembly, maintained by outside influences. And it can also count upon the benevolent attitude of the bureaucracy of preserving the "status quo" and of according support to a party which is wholeheartedly devoted to the war effort. Fresh elections, however, might cause a landslide in favour of the Muslim League, but that depends upon how the new circumstances will develop and on how the various parties are able to organise the elections.



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Proposal For Ten-Crore Govt. Grant To Meet Cloth Shortage

(From Our Correspondent.)

AHMEDABAD, Jan. 27. It is reliably learnt that owing to serious cloth shortage prevailing in the market, the Textile Control Board has recommended to the Government of India to give a grant of Rs. 10 crores to the All-India Spinners' Association to encourage Khadi and hand-spun clothing.

Navjivan Trust Demands Rs. 54,000 From Govt.

AHMEDABAD, Jan. 27. Mr. Jijaji Desai, Manager and Secretary of Mahatma Gandhi's Navjivan Trust, has served notice to-day through his counsel on the Government of Bombay through the Collector of Ahmedabad, claiming payment of Rs. 54,500 as compensation for the papers and other sundries disposed of by the Government when they took possession of the Press and sealed it.

The notice further adds that failing payment of the above sum within two months of receipt of the notice, the Manager will file a suit against the Government to recover the sum.—United Press.

ARAKAN CAMPAIGN NOW IN LAST STAGE

Yet Another Allied Landing To Speed Up Occupation Of Ramree

KANDY, Jan. 27. The Arakan campaign is now in its last stage, writes Alan Humphreys A.P.I. war correspondent.

Choked more and more tightly on the coastal strip by a swift succession of landings, the Cheduba landing reported in to-day's S.E.A.C. communique being the fifth amphibious operation this month, and pressed unrelentingly from the north by the West Africans, the Japanese appear to be pulling out of the Arakan division of Burma.

The Cheduba landing should help to speed up the occupation of Ramree.

The capture of Myohaung, by West Africans is the culmination of steady squeezing moves in the difficult, water-intersected country of the Southern Kaladan.

With the coast route sealed off, the Japanese will have to make their way across the Arakan Yomas into Central Burma. These mountains, which separate the narrow coastal strip from the flat central valley rise 6,000 feet and are only crossed by few poor mule tracks.

ARAKAN YOMAS RAIDED Much significance attaches, therefore, to the first reference in the S.E.A.C. communique to air attacks in the Arakan Yomas.

The only possible deduction is that the eastward withdrawal by the Japanese from Arakan to Central Burma is becoming general.

Only the five and a half-mile Straits of Cheduba separate the scene of the most recent landing from Ramree.

Cheduba is a pea-shaped island about 21 miles long and 17 miles wide.

Today's S.E.A.C. Communique adds: Strong opposition is still encountered at Sinogyi on the Lemro river north-east of Myohaung. On-daw has been cleared of the enemy.

INDIA BASED B-29's RAID INDO-CHINA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27: The War Department has announced that Super-Fortresses from India bombed Indo-China today. No details have been announced.

The War Department also announces that Super-fortresses from the Marianas in daylight to-day bombed Honshu Island, the main Japanese home island on which Tokyo stands.—Reuter.

BAR TO MAJUMDAR D.F.C. Wing Commander K. K. Majumdar, D.F.C., who recently returned to India from Europe where he has been flying in operations with the R.A.F., has been awarded a Bar to his distinguished Flying Cross.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COTTON (JULY)	
New York, Jan. 27.	
Previous Closing	21.18
To-day's Opening	21.19
Difference	+0.01
To-day's Closing	21.07
Difference	-0.11

Red Army Captures Town In Gulf Of Danzig

TWO-THIRDS OF EAST PRUSSIA ALREADY OCCUPIED

LONDON, January 27.

The German news agency reports that Russian troops have crossed the Netze river, east of Schneidemuehl, a town 90 miles east of the important port of Stettin.

The German news agency said that the Russians had made several deep breaches south-east of the big East Prussian town of Koenigsberg.

RUSSIANS 140 MILES FROM BERLIN

According to Russian official information forces of Marshal Zhukov are 140 miles from Berlin and nowhere are they any nearer, writes Reuter's military correspondent.

Many reports are misleading because they are based on German reports which may often refer to thrusts of Russian armoured patrols making rapid reconnaissance and then withdrawing.

MOSCOW, Jan. 27: The Moscow radio announced on Friday that the river Oder had been crossed at several places.

Hindenburg Captured

MOSCOW, Jan. 26: Marshal Stalin announces the capture of Hindenburg, the large industrial town in Upper Silesia.

Russian troops have broken through to Danzig, announces Marshal Stalin in a second Order of the Day issued to-day. The Russians have captured Tolkmitt on Frisches Haff and Marienburg, the biggest railway junction in East Prussia at the mouth of the Vistula, 15 miles south-east of Elbing.

The Order, addressed to Marshal Rokossovsky, said "Troops of the Second White Russian front, to-day occupied in East Prussia the towns of Muhlihausen, Marienburg and Stuhm, important German strongpoints, and after breaking through to the coast of the gulf of Danzig, captured the town of Tolkmitt."

SOVIET COMMANDANT OF GUMBINNEN

MOSCOW, Jan. 27: Major Ivan Chudakov, a Moscovite, is the first Soviet commandant of a German city to be named in the Press here. He has taken over Gumbinnen in East Prussia.

MOSCOW, Jan. 27: From Reuter's special correspondent: Marshal Zhukov's tanks sweeping on south-west of Poznan are now within striking distance of the Poznan-Berlin railway, the main escape route for the German garrison in Poznan. Marshal Koniev is broadening his front from one end of Silesia to another and has now reached or is thrusting for the Oder over a distance of nearly 130 miles. The German forces fighting east of the Oder and north-west of Breslau look like being caught in a pincer grip against the river bank unless they still hold the crossings in this area intact.

In the north, the Germans are counter-attacking fiercely in a bid to break off the head of Marshal Rokossovsky's encircling spearhead, which has come out on the Baltic coast—and restore East Prussia's land link with the rest of the Reich. All attacks have been repulsed with heavy losses. At its tip this spearhead as last reported was about 15 miles broad but the imminent collapse of the German defences in the Elbing region promises that it will be at least double this width by to night.

Threat To Danzig

Marshal Rokossovsky's troops are beginning to threaten Danzig, now less than 20 miles away. But to reach Danzig they will have to cross the channels of the Vistula delta.

The Red Army has occupied at least two thirds of East Prussia and is hourly herding back more Germans towards the north-western corner.

It is here that the final clean up will probably take place—the cleaning up that will rival the massacre on Cape Khersons in Crimea last spring, unless the Germans surrender before then.

The East Prussia "kettle" is boiling up as masses of Soviet guns are moved up to blast new corridors through the trapped German grouping. Earlier reports said there were some thirty German divisions including a number of the best units of the Wehrmacht fighting on this front.

AMERICANS RETAKE GERMAN TOWN

General Advance Of Three Miles On Twenty-Mile Front

With U. S. Third Army, Jan. 27. American patrols reached the Our river, four and half miles north-east of Clervaux.

General advances of up to three miles on a 20-mile front have been made by the U. S. Third Army. They have retaken the German town of Eutzdorf, 14-1/2 miles south-east of Luxembourg.

From Reuter's special correspondent, Field Marshal Montgomery's Hq.: German resistance on the British sector west of the Roer River in the Dutch-German border area is collapsing. British troops have entered posterholt and Reuren west of the Roer between Roermond and Heinsberg.

"Everything now seems to have been completely squeezed out of the Ardennes", a headquarters spokesman said today. "If anything, the retreat of rail north-east from Hamm is increasing."

S.H.A.E.F., PARIS, Jan. 27: Today's communique from Gen. Eisenhower's Hq. states: "Allied forces continued their advance between Linne and Heinsberg. South-east of Heinsberg, our units have occupied the villages of Greebben, Dremen, Horst and Nirm on the west bank of the river Wurm. East of Wurm, our attack has been extended and our units have occupied Brachelen and advanced beyond it to the north."

North-west of St. Vith, have taken Mirfeld, Amblevé and Meyerode. The town of Wallerode two miles north-east of St. Vith, is in our hands and we have taken the high ground between Wallerode and Meterode. In the area north and north-east of Clervaux our forces are clearing the wooded area east of Wilwerdange, near the northern border of Luxembourg and have entered Weiswampach.

Further south, we have reached Heinscheid on the St. Vith-Dierk road and are in the vicinity of Fishbach. South of Clervaux, we are in the vicinity of Bockholz, and have cleared Pinched. Farther South-east our troops are fighting at Hoescheiderdick. In Northern Alsace, the enemy forces which penetrated to Schillersdorf and crossed the Moder river farther east were driven back at all points. Our positions were restored. We have re-occupied Mulhausen and Bescholz. North-east of Colmar, we have entered Riedwihr.

NAZI PEACE MOVE

STORY DENIED

British Foreign Office Denies Report

LONDON, Jan. 26. The British Foreign Office to-night categorically denied that any of its spokesmen, referring to the radio report that the German diplomat, von Papen, was in Madrid on a peace mission, had declared that the reports of the German peace move were "possibly true this time". The spokesman had been quoted as saying this by an American source.—Reuter

No Imminent German

Withdrawal From Italy

Allied Headquarters, Italy Jan. 27: Explosions behind the German lines along the Eighth Army front are now believed to have been caused by the blasting of frozen ground for fortifications and do not portend an imminent withdrawal.

Today Allied communique says: Fifteenth Army Group: Patrols remain active on both the Fifth and Eighth Army fronts.

PROVIDENT FUND

NEW DELHI, Jan. 27. A "Gazette Extraordinary" has published a bill to further amend the Indian Companies Act of 1913. The amendment displaces the prevailing wrong view that no employee under rules of provident fund has any rights to withdraw money standing to his credit in the fund.—United Press

POLICE INTERFERES WITH SEVAGRAM CLEAN-UP DRIVE

"Ahimsa" And "Satya" Vindicated, Points Out Pyarelal

SEVAGRAM, Jan. 27. Further details about the observance of the "Independence Day" in Sevagram are now available. The day was celebrated at Sevagram by engaging in a programme of self-purification and service in conformity with Gandhiji's ideas. The members of the Khadi Vidyalaya, Talimi Sangh, Sangram Seva Shibir and the Ashram gathered in the Khadi Vidyalaya Hall and held a mass spinning demonstration. Next came the flag salutation. The unfurling was done by Swami Anand and the Vande Mataram and the Jhanda songs were sung as usual. Swami Anand then read out the Independence Pledge which was drafted by Gandhiji while in detention in the Aga Khan Palace.

A novel and striking feature of the celebration was the formal inauguration by Mr. Jaju of the new system of Khadi sales against part payment of its price in yarn in pursuance of the recent re-orientation of its Kne policy by the Charkha Sangha.

CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

The next item was collective cleaning up of the Sevagram village. About 250 members of the various Sevagram institutions marched in double file to their appointed task carrying with them spades, pick-axes, baskets and brooms.

POLICE OBSTRUCTION

When they were about 50 yards from the village, they were stopped by the police accompanied by the Additional District Magistrate. They were told that they could not proceed further unless they broke up their band. The first two batches did as they were told but the third batch consisting of the members of the Sevagram Shibir headed by Mr. Kanu Gandhi refused. They were under training and had been taught to march in that fashion whenever they went out of Shibir. The matter was referred to Gandhiji who sent Mr. Pyarelal to explain to the Additional District Magistrate that

the object of the batch was simply to carry out the programme of cleaning the village. No flag demonstration or any other thing was intended either in the village or on the way to it. But the police continued to block the way. The members of the batch then sat down by the roadside with their implements. The District Magistrate was rung up but he was not available for nearly two hours. He was again rung up as soon as he had returned to his bungalow and when the exact situation was explained to him he ordered the police to let the batch proceed without any interference. As soon as the way was cleared they picked up their instruments and marched to the village.

PYARELAL'S INTERPRETATION

In the evening the flag was taken down when after recitation of the Independence Pledge in the usual manner, Mr. Pyarelal explained the significance of the morning's incidents. The following is the gist of his remarks.

"An English friend who had come on a casual visit to the Ashram asked me yesterday whether the flag salutation did not smack somewhat of militarism. I explained to him that his criticism was ill-grounded since our national flag was as much a symbol of independence as of truth and non-violence. I little realised at that time that this claim of ours would be put to test before many hours had passed.

Need Of Marching

"The need for physical drill and discipline is as great, if not greater, in the case of a Satyagrahi as it is for a soldier in army, for while the latter relies on strength of his destructive weapons, the former depends solely on the strength of non-violent organisation of the people.

Ranji Trophy

BOMBAY RETRIEVES
AFTER BAD STARTMody And Cooper Score 137
And 59 Not Out

BARODA, Jan. 27: In the West Zone final of the Ranji Trophy Tournament between Bombay and Baroda, at close of play today Bombay had made 248 for five wickets, Modi batting 137 and Cooper batting 59.

Sensational cricket was witnessed in today's game. Bombay going in to bat first lost four valuable wickets with only 36 runs on board including that of V. M. Merchant who was out first ball caught behind the wickets off Vijaya Hazare.

Merchant winning the toss sent in Ibrahim and Anwar Hussein to the bowling of Vijaya Hazare and Gul Mahomed. With the first delivery of his first over Gul Mahomed shattered Ibrahim's wickets, and Anwar met with a similar fate at the hands of Hazare when he had scored 11 (15-2-11). Baroda should have claimed yet another wicket—that of Mody—but Amir Elahi failed to hold a hot catch in the slips off Hazare.

Hazare in his ninth over, however, claimed two wickets with successive deliveries. He first beat and bowled Mantri (36-3-10), and then sent Bombay's Captain back to the pavilion caught behind the wickets (36-4-0). Hazare's bowling analysis at this state showed 9-3-18-3. Phadkar joined Modi and the two Bombay University batsmen pushed the score to 60 in 80 minutes. Modi's score then being 33. Modi and Phadkar were taking no risks whatever.

At 112 Phadkar lifted Amir Elahi towards the bowler's screen and was held by Patel. Phadkar had played a patient innings for his 23 and was at the wicket for about two hours. The Modi-Phadkar partnership had added 76 runs, for the fifth wicket (112-5-23).

Cooper now joined Modi, who got a "life" when Mirchandani failed to accept a high catch off Elahi when he had scored 77.

BOMBAY (First Innings): Ibrahim b Gul Mahomed 1; Anwar Hussein b V. S. Hazare 11; Mantri b Hazare 10; R. S. Modi batting 137; V. M. Merchant c Nimbalkar b Hazare 0; Phadkar c Patel b Amir Elahi 23; R. S. Cooper batting 59. Extras 7. Total for five wickets 248.

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-15, 3-36, 4-36, 5-112.—A. P.

N. I. C. A. Amasses 449 In
North Zone Final

LAHORE, Jan. 27: The Northern India Cricket Association's first innings came to a close after lunch today at 449 at Lahore in the North Zone final of the Ranji Trophy Tournament. At the close of play Southern Punjab had made 99 for the loss of two wickets.

The Government of Madras have directed that women may be employed as lower and upper division clerks in the Madras Secretariat Service.



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ATHLETIC SPORTS IN
BOMBAY

By J. C. MAITRA

The Tenth Annual Athletic Meet of the Bombay Presidency Olympic Association attracted the biggest crowd ever seen in the Provincial Games at the Brabourne Stadium last week-end. That was bound to be—with the City flowing with inflated money and a large influx of outside population. I am told the gate collections were fairly handsome which will leave the Association a substantial balance after meeting all the expense. That is very encouraging indeed. But more than that, the enthusiasm among the spectators, competitors and the officials knew no bounds, which is an excellent augury for athletics in this city and the province. For steady or rapid advancement of sport a good deal depends on the spectators. With their encouraging support, sportsmen always try to go all out to make a better show of themselves.

CO-OPERATION OF EDUCATIONAL
AUTHORITIES

At many as 200 athletes, men and women took part in the various events. This is a small improvement in number over the previous year. I am afraid we cannot have a larger influx of students at this time of the year as they must all be preparing for their final examinations which are generally held in March. Many a student have complained to me that they cannot participate in the Provincial Games because of this difficulty. I wonder if something could not be done to shift the meeting to an earlier date, say some time in December. It is up to the powers that be to give a careful consideration to this aspect of the question. But to popularise it still more, the school and college authorities must take a greater interest in the Games. If they follow the bright example of the St. Xavier's College and School, for instance, it will not take Bombay, and India, long to march ahead of the rest of the world.

RECORDS FEW

Only one All-India record was equalled and two Bombay records were smashed. In the previous year I noticed one All-India record was bettered and as many as eight local records were overhauled, despite the fact that Miss M. Gilbert, the All-India Women's Champion, and several other prominent athletes could not take part owing to the refusal by the authorities to accept their late entries. This year too some of the outstanding athletes were missed, Mabel Gilbert and Ray Salway in particular who have changed the athletic arena for the field of matrimony.

A SUGGESTION

The reason why more records were eclipsed last year than this might be due to the fact that the All-India Meet was to be held last year. If that be so—and there is good reason for it—the B.P.O.A. would do well to try and persuade the I.O.A. to stage the All-India Games annually. I have no doubt this would give a lot of impetus to the athletes not only in Bombay but in all the provinces and at the same time raise the standard of athletics in all parts of the country. The Indian Hockey Federation has now decided to follow the example of the Board of Control for Cricket in India in respect of the Cricket Championship of India. I do not see any reason why the National Olympic Games cannot be held every year. As a matter of fact it is much easier to stage this than the other All-India competitions in major games like cricket, hockey and football. I hope the B.P.O.A. would give their earnest consideration to this matter at an early date.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

The most noteworthy performance of the season was in the 110 metres hurdles in which J. Vickers equalled his own previous record of 15.6 seconds. After putting up this timing for All-India in the Bombay Games last year he went to Patiala to record it again in the National Meet. If he is stretched a little more by his rivals he may improve the timing next year. He however yielded the palm to L. Dias in the 100 Metres Flat Race, taking the second place in it. The latter succeeded in winning the 200 metres as well in excellent style.

These may be mentioned the achievements of Fabian D'Souza and B. S. Gohel who lowered the respective records in the 1,500 metres and Pole Vault. For a mere schoolboy, it is really very creditable for D'Souza to better the previous record of 4 minutes 20.7 seconds by 0.9 seconds. With more training and experience, he is sure to do better in future. Gohel, on the other hand, cleared 11 feet, 4-1/2 inches to beat his own record by an inch. He is still far behind the All-India record of 12 feet 7.8 inches.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP
FOR LEO PEREIRA

The individual Championship in the men's events was won by Leo Pereira of the B. B. & C. I. Railway, who had the distinction of leading the 10,000 and 5,000 metres and taking second rank in the 3,000 metres—a feat unequalled by any other athlete, while the team Championship was claimed by the Bombay City Police. It is no wonder that they should as they have a large number of athletes in their Force. But it is time they discovered new talents

to replace the aging Jameson and Adens.

In the Women's events, Miss Banoo Gazdar and Miss B. Thadani won two firsts and one place each, but the championship was carried away by Miss Y. Coulten who managed to secure a place in almost all the items, winning only the Javelin Throw. It was certainly due to her that the G.I.P. Railway Sports Club got the Team Championship in this section.

SYD. CORDER'S MONOPOLY

The Cycling events saw Sydney Corder, the All-India Champion, having his own way all through. In the 4,000 metres, time was taken lap by lap according to the International system. He lead every time carrying away 65 points to the 29 notched by J. F. Amin, the second man in. This race caused a good deal of excitement among the spectators and at the same time prevented the crawling tactics adopted by some of the cyclists in previous years. It is hoped that this method will eventually eradicate the evil of crawling and speed up the timing in all the events. It is worth remembering that India is still far behind the world records. Unless our cyclists and athletes look beyond the shores of our land and aim at the highest target, they will never be able to add lustre to their motherland.

ANOTHER CYCLIST STAR FROM
POONA

Another Poona cyclist earned the merit of winning both the cycling events for women and this was Margaret Sullivan. Evidently Corder's inspiration and example had much to do with her success.

While congratulating Poona and her victorious cyclists, I should like to mention that Bombay has lost the leadership owing to the unhealthy rivalry and jealousy between some of the groups of cyclists in this city. In the best interests of the sport and their own advancement they should forget their differences and work for the common cause. It is high time they revived the old Cyclists' Union which has remained in a state of suspended animation for several years or form a new one at an early date. A special organisation for themselves would certainly be more helpful than none at all.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO WOMEN
ATHLETES

I notice that the number of women athletes was smaller this year than in the previous year. It may be due to the fact that many of the aspirants for the athletic honours are now engaged in war work and cannot devote any time for hard training of this nature. Unless and until our schools and colleges pay more attention to this section of their students and encourage them to take to healthy outdoor sport we shall not have many competitors from the fair sex, nor shall we see any improvement in the general standard of their health and physique. I would therefore repeat that the educational authorities should be persuaded to take more interest in this direction.

NEXT WORLD GAMES

Even before the war is over, the members of the International Olympic Committee in Britain and America are considering the question of holding the next World Games soon after the hostilities cease. A statement issued by Lord Aberdare, Lord Burghley and Sir Noel Curtis Bennett, members of the International Olympic Committee, in this connection is exceedingly interesting. They said, "Our United States colleague on the International Olympic Committee, in advocating early resumption of Olympic Games after the war stated that 'London, half destroyed by bombs, will have a lot more important things to do than stage Olympic Meetings.' He went on to say, 'I know Los Angeles is ready to hold them at any time.'"

LONDON'S CLAIM

"Games were celebrated in Los Angeles, they continued, 'as recently as 1932, whereas London had not that honour since 1908, though recently accepting the offer for 1944. Notwithstanding the widespread damage of the last four years, we are satisfied the Games could be staged in London with even greater efficiency and with far wider facilities than would have been possible before the war.'"

"We hope—if and when the Games are held again—the International Olympic Committee will consider the claim of our beloved London, and thus give athletes from all over the world an opportunity of seeing our scarred and battered city of which we are so justly proud."

Commenting on this, Daniel Ferris a member of the American Olympic Committee said, "I am glad to hear that they show interest in holding it as soon as the war is over. We all believe that the Olympic games should be held as soon as possible after the conclusion of the war, because it furnishes a great stimulus for the youth of the world, keeping them physically fit and bringing competing nations closer together."

Needless to mention, India is equally anxious to take part in the World Games and hopes that they will be held as early as possible.

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CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu: Magh Shud 15, 2001.
Muslim: Safar 13, 1364.
Parsee: Amardad 27, 1314.
Sunrise: 6-14 a.m. Sunset: 7-29 p.m.
High tide: 1-26, 13-14.
Low tide: 7-40, 19-10

Domestic Occurrence

DEATHS

SURTI SORABJI NUSSEWANJI (Papa), Retired Driver, Badnera (Berar), Husband of late Sirinbal, Father of Kaikhurru, Khan Sahib Rattan-shaw, Minocher, Soonamal Erach-shaw, Dubash and late Pherozeshaw and Dinshaw, expired Saturday 27th, 3 a.m. Uthman ceremony to-day at Bhaba's Bangli, at 3 p.m. (S. T.). Bombay Residence, 410, Bowla Building, Chaitchpoojy, Bombay 12. (C. P. and Berar Papers please copy).

GOMES-D'MELLO: Caetano Antonio of Sahgaio expired Saturday, 27th January. Funeral leaves Carnac House, Carnac Road, at 5-30 p.m., to-day for Haines Road.

To-day's Engagements

SHRI RAMACHANDRA BHAJANA SAMAJ, DADAR: Thaipusam Festival will be celebrated to-day (Sunday), with Paanaka Pooja in the evening.

VIVEKANANDA BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY: The anniversary will be celebrated at Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Khar, to-day, with Usha Kiran and Vedic chant from 7 to 9 a.m. and distribution of cash to poor Narayanas from 11 to 1 p.m. In the afternoon, from 3 to 7 p.m., there will be Gandharva Nritya by Prof. Banabharali Malvi; Chorus and Bhajan by Ramachandra Paul, Mani Das Gupta and others; speeches by Panditratna B. L. Shanbhogue, Dr. R. C. Majumdar, Dr. A. M. Patel, Dr. J. C. Chatterjee and others, and musical entertainment by Mani Das Gupta and party.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE: Annual inspection St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, 3rd and 16th districts by Lady Louis Mountbatten, Lady Superintendent-in-Chief, Nursing Divisions, and Sir Cameron Badenoch, Chief Commissioner for the Empire of India, at 9-00 a.m.

FAREWELL FUNCTION TO DR. JIVRAJ MEHTA: Farewell Function will be held in honour of Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta and Capt. R. E. Dadachanji, at the Seth G. S. Medical College, at 5-30 p.m. The Mayor of Bombay will preside.

DR. L. SUNDARAM'S LECTURES: Dr. Lanka Sundaram, well-known journalist and author is now in Bombay for a few days' visit. He has published three books entitled "India in World Politics", "Nationalism and Self-Sufficiency" and "Secular State for India", and is addressing the Freedom Group on Monday, (29th January), on the "Fundamentals of Indian Freedom" and on Thursday, (1st Feb.), the Progressive Group on "The Future of Indian Overseas".

HINDUSTANI RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION: Annual general meeting at the Anandilal Podar High School, Santa Cruz, at 5 p.m.

ESPLANADE HIGH SCHOOL PAST STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION: General meeting at 10 a.m. (N. S. T.) in the premises of the school.

HINDUSTANI SCOUT ASSOCIATION: Provincial Scout Rally and Display at the Gowalia Tank Maidan, Bombay, at 5 p.m. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. C. Chagla will preside.

BOMBAY TENANTS' ASSOCIATION: Send-off to Mr. S. C. Joshi the Labour Commissioner at 5-30 p.m., in "Soman Building", Girgaon.

INDIAN MUSIC CIRCLE (BOMBAY NORTH): Sahnai by Nandlal and Party, at 9-30 in the morning, at Khalesa College Hall, Matunga.

Dance Recital By Ram Gopal

IN AID OF HORNIMAN GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE

Mr. B. G. Horniman will be finishing 50 years of his journalistic career at the end of the year. In order to celebrate his Golden Jubilee, Bombay has once again come forward to present this literary stalwart with a purse, thereby showing her heartfelt and grateful appreciation for all his great services to Bombay in particular and India in general.

Ram Gopal the world famous Indian dancer has very kindly consented to give a dance recital in aid of the Fund at Sundrabai Hall, on Tuesday, (February 6th), at 8-30 p.m., supported by his partners Janki and Miss Jer Jussawala. Here is a splendid opportunity for all Bombay to come forward not only to witness a really great artist but also to appreciate one of India's greatest and sincerest friends. Tickets are priced at Rs. 10, Rs. 6/8, Rs. 5 and Rs. 2/8 which can be had from Mrs. Bapay Sabavala, Industrial Assurance Building (Tel. No. 31181 or 41032).

ALL-INDIA WEATHER

POONA, Jan. 27: Following is the weather chart showing maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall in inches recorded at eight hours L. M. T. on 24/1/45:—
Allahabad 77 47 0, BOMBAY 87 66 0, Calcutta 80 53 0, Cawnpore 77 46 0, Cuttack 83 55 0, Darjeeling 58 39 0, Delhi 75 48 0, Dehra Dun 71 46 0, Jaorabad 75 48 0, Karachi 75 60 0, Lahore 70 45 0, Lucknow 78 47 0, Madras 83 66 0, Nagpur 83 64 0, Patna 76 49 0, Peshawar 66 42 0, Shillong 78 50 0, Simla 62 38 0—A. P.

BOMBAY RACES

Odds On Annexes Derby

Haut Ton Wins Eclipse Stakes: Gets Narrow Measure Over Chanak In Thrilling Finish

From Our Racing Correspondent

All roads led to Mahaluxmi from the early noon on the eventful Derby day. The stands and enclosures were stormed well in advance of the scheduled time and when the programme commenced there was mad rush every where. There was regular scramble for seats on the stands and securing the tickets was not so easy a job as in the past. The regular punters had a successful day as several fancied candidates were in the fore-front and the big contingent of the visitors who had gathered to witness the running of the Derby and the Eclipse Stakes were greatly amused at the close finishes fought out in those races.

The Maharaja of Kashmir's Odds On annexed the Derby and the Maharaja of Gwalior's Royal Jester ran a close second while the race for the race, the Gaekwar of Baroda's King's Jester ran a poor third.

In the race for the Eclipse Stakes of India, the feather-weighted Cobalt went to the front soon after the start and keeping back the remainder of the field by several lengths entered the straight and petered out over the last three furlongs. Haut Ton and Chanak who were prominently placed, made their appearances felt on approaching the first enclosure and the pair proceeded headlong, fighting every inch of ground in which Haut Ton lasted to win by narrowest margin.

Heritage gained a facile win in the race for the Governor's Cup. Brace who sustained a fall from What Again in the Derby was unable to ride him as he had severe bruises and a heavy shaking and hence Rook was entrusted with the mount.

The famous Gwalior establishment was again out in touch of luck. They had a blank day.

Doubles were recorded for the Maharaja of Kashmir and Idar, Jones and Brace rode two winners each.

The following are the results:—

THE GAYE PLATE, Division III.—

Distance 1 mile.

Mr J D Banatwalla's MOZAN

8-8 Bhim Rao

Mr. Yousuf N. Lalji's WARD AL

JYAD 8-5 Mull Singh

Mr D F Karaka's JANAB 9-0

Hanuman Singh

Messrs. B Patel and D K Parkar's

DHIBAN 8-8 Jadhav

Not run: Halfaya, Miami and Nurdosh.

Won by Short head, 1 length, 1/2 length.

Time: 1 minute 52 1/5 seconds

Tote paid: Win Rs. 35. Places Rs.

17. Rs. 82 and Rs. 26.

Trainer: Meherjee.

Favourite: Mozan.

THE SIR COWASJEE JEHANGIR

PLATE—Distance 7 Furlongs

Maharani of Kashmir's REPAR-

TEE 8-11 Jones

Mr. M. D. Pettit's MENU SUP-

FRAGE 8-12 Evans

Mrs. D. M. Mistry's FUREORE

8-9 Raffaele

Maharaja of Baroda's STAR OF

SIROHI 8-6 Rook

Not run—Han.

Won by 1 length, Shd-Hd., 3

lengths.

Time—1m. 29 3/5s.

Tote paid Rs. 21 for win, Rs. 15

Rs. 15 and Rs. 58 for places.

Winner trained by Shinde.

THE GAYE PLATE (Div. II)—Dis-

tance 1 Mile

Mr. S. P. Mistry's WASF AL

MULK 8-11 Brace

Mr. Rahiman's INTIDHAR AL

SHABAB 8-2 B. McQuade

Mr. R. P. Ebrahim's FLOWER

OF CALCUTTA 7-11 Khade

Maharaja of Gwalior's BOONTIAN

9-4 Magansingh

Not run—Malik al Jiyad, Khazan-

chi, Sagir Dahman.

Won by 1 length, 1 length Shd-Hd

Time—1m. 51 4/5s.

Tote paid Rs. 32 for win, Rs. 16.

Rs. 30 and Rs. 118 for places.

Winner trained by Maj. Irani.

THE ADELAIDE PLATE—Distance

6 Furlongs.

Maharaja of Idar's NO WON-

DER 8-10 Brace

Maharaja of Gwalior's HIDDEN

TREASURE 9-2 Roberts

Maharaja of Gwalior's CILLAS

9-2 Sibbritt

Major A. Svamur's SO THAT'S

THAT 7-4 Raut

Not run—Carlos.

Won by 1 length, 2 1/4 lengths, Nk.

Time—1m. 16 3/5s.

Tote paid Rs. 39 for win, Rs. 19

and Rs. 18 for places.

Winner trained by Marhaba.

THE INDIAN DERBY, 1945—Dis-

tance 1 1/4 Miles.

Maharaja of Kashmir's ODDS

ON 8-9 Jones

Maharaja of Gwalior's ROYAL

JESTER 9-0 Roberts

Maharaja of Baroda's KING'S

JESTER 9-6 Britt

Maharaja of Baroda's WAR

ADMIRAL 9-0 Khade

Not run—Filimindia.

Won by Nk., 1 length, 3/4 length

Time—2ms. 43s.

Tote paid Rs. 68 for win, Rs. 22

Rs. 43 and Rs. 16 for places.

Winner trained by Shinde.

THE ECLIPSE STAKES OF INDIA

Distance 1 1/4 Miles.

Mrs. Justice's HAUT TON 8-13

Whiteside

Maharani of Kolhapur's CHANAK

8-11 Britt

Mr. M. D. Pettit's AVON SONG

7-7 Sibbritt

Mr. M. D. Pettit's TATTER-SOL

8-4 Evans

Not run—Flashing Prince.

Won by Shd-Hd., 2 lengths

lengths.

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TO-DAY ON RADIO

BOMBAY—

SUNDAY, Jan. 28.

244 m (1,231 kc/s) 8-0 a.m. News (H)
8-15 News (E) 8-30 Music from Film
8-50 News (M) 9-0 News (G) 9-10 To-
morrow 9-15 Mulchand J. Nayak 9-30
M G Gokhale (Poona) 10-0 Hirabai
Javeri 11-0 A I R Orchestra 11-15
Shankarrao Vyas 12-0 p.m. Yusuf
Effendi 12-20 Mulchand J. Nayak
12-35 Desai on Sarangi 12-45 News (M)
12-50 News (G) 12-55 News (H) 1-9
Music from Film 1-30 News (E) 1-40
Music 5-0 M G Gokhale (Poona) 5-30
Ghazal 5-45 Topical Talk 5-55 Local
6-0 Hirabai Javeri 6-30 News (E) 6-40
News (H) 6-45 Bhavgeet 7-0 Sitar
7-15 Yusuf Effendi 7-30 Shankarrao
Vyas 8-0 Karmada Songs 8-15 News
(M) 8-30 News (G) 8-45 Let Us Play
You Something 9-0 News (H) 9-20
News (E) 9-30 E E C News 9-45 Pacific
Theatre 10-0 Symphonic Hour.

Time—2ms. 39 4/5s.
Tote paid Rs. 49 for win, Rs. 17.
Rs. 16 and Rs. 70 for places.

Winner trained by Khemara.

THE GOVERNOR'S CUP—Distance

1 1/4 Miles.

Maharaja of Idar's HERITAGE

8-12 Rook

Maharaja of Baroda's SWEET

DREAM 8-10 Britt

Mr. Adi H. Billimoria's SAY

WHEN 8-2 Kheem Singh

Maharaja of Parlakimedi's CLI-

THEROE 9-2 Sibbritt

Not run—Typhoon.

Won by 3 lengths, Shd-Hd. 1 1/2

length.

Time—2ms. 12 2/5s.

Tote paid Rs. 34 for win, Rs. 16

Rs. 16 and Rs. 32 for places.

Winner trained by Marhaba.

THE J. ROBINSON PLATE—Dis-

tance 1 Mile.

M/s. Ardeschir and Bolton's

CHURCHILL 8-12 Evans

Sir Cusrow Wadia's QUISLING

7-9 Khade

Maharaja of Parlakimedi's

GENERAL MONTGOMERY

9-1 Sibbritt

Maharaja of Idar's TRUEFIT

8-4 Rook

Not run—Say When, Maid of

Manjri, Trusty and Prominent.

Won by 2 lengths, Nk., 1 length

Time—1m. 44 3/5s.

Tote paid Rs. 26 for win, Rs. 13

Rs. 23 and Rs. 15 for places.

Winner trained by Buckley.

THE GAYE PLATE (Div. I)—Dis-

tance 1 Mile.

Maharaja of Baroda's FADU-

HAT AL GARB 9-6 Britt

Hon. Sir Shantidas Askuran's

LORD WAVELL 8-8 Evans

Mr. Chandulal J. Shah's SUKAB

RAMZI 8-6 Kheem Singh

Maharaja of Baroda's YISIR

AL ARAB 9-2 Rook

Not run—Micky Mouse, Dhyal

Shammar.

Tote paid Rs. 75 for win, Rs. 37

Rs. 13 and Rs. 23 for places.

Winner trained by Rajya Ratna

M. C. Patel.



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JWAR BHATA

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SANKH MI - BELA...
ANDHAKAR - ANDHAKAR...
SARSON - PILI...
KAN DO HEY - GOPAL...

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RED ARMY STAGES LAST ACT OF WAR

JANUARY 26.

We are witnessing the last act if not the last scene of the war in Europe. The complete collapse which has come over the German army on the Russian front can have no other meaning. Even the Nazi pep master Dr. Goebbels bleats piteously: "What if we cannot stop the Russians?"

The Nazis are cautiously angling for the probable answer to this no longer hypothetical question. The German High Command is reported to have already put out peace feelers to the Kremlin following a meeting at Hitler's headquarters: it would be typical of Nazi diplomacy to seek a separate peace from the Soviet, thus hoping to sow discord between the Big Three on the eve of their meeting even if the offer is rejected—as it promptly and unceremoniously was!

"Pravda" declared: "We shall not be tricked this time by a bluff peace. We shall march on to Berlin". The spearheads of the Red Army are less than 125 miles from the German capital and the punch and momentum behind them has not flagged in the least since Stalin opened his avalanche like offensive a fortnight ago. "Berlin before spring" is the theme-song of the Red Army and Marshal Koniev and Zhukov are running a neck-to-neck race between themselves as to who reaches the goal-post first.

All the indications are that Red Army columns will march over the "unter den Linden" before the spring thaw sets in whether the curtain drops down the Armageddon or not. It is amusing to note that the alleged Nazi offer to the Kremlin conveyed by none less than Guderian, Chief of the General Staff, himself accepted this crowning ignominy of the occupation of Berlin by a token Allied force. Now that Moscow has summarily rejected the offer, the wily German diplomat, Franz Von Papen is said to have flown to Madrid at the head of a peace mission, according to the Ankara Radio. Pregnant was the comment of a spokesman of the British Foreign Office that reports of German peace moves may "possibly be true this time".

Blows On Solar Plexus

The air is thus charged with all sorts of anticipations and expectations, which are based on the solid and dramatic achievements of the Red Army. In one mighty sweep it has marched from the Vistula to the Oder and carried the war right into the borders of the Reich. Oppeln, the capital of Upper Silesia and an important centre of German war industry has been captured. East Prussia, the native home of the Junkers, has been all but cut off and is being methodically overrun. Breslau the seventh largest city of Germany, the capital of Lower Silesia and a key production centre is now closely invested by the all-conquering First Ukrainian Army group of Marshal Koniev.

Breslau, Posen and Bromberg at present are the three pivot points before which mighty battles are flaring up. The German High Command is feverishly rushing reinforcements to defend these three bastions the loss of which may well mark the final disintegration of German resistance. They are not merely vital to the defence of the heart of Germany; their surrender will mean the loss of the Silesian arsenal together, on which depends the capacity of the Wehrmacht to fight, at all now that the Rhineland industry is crippled by the continued plastering of the Allied air forces.

What Marshal Koniev and Zhukov are doing at present supported by Rokossovsky and Cherniakovsky from the north and Petrov from the south is to rain terrific blows on the solar plexus of the German army. The military commentator of the German News Agency reports that the Red Army has thrown 300 Soviet infantry divisions 25 armoured corps and several cavalry formations, making altogether three and a half million troops. In this mighty battle of decision. Never in military annals has such a colossal hosts of men and machines launched such simultaneous offensives and never has an army achieved more shattering victor-

ies. Even the Napoleonic parallel fades into insignificance before this miraculous feat of arms.

Surrender Or Be Frozen!

Though the German High Command is making a determined bid for damming the Russian tidal wave before Breslau east of Poznan and west of Bromberg, it does not necessarily mean that the fighting will be localised in these three areas. For the Soviet High Command has revolutionized the science of war by its ability to mount new offensives in unexpected directions with the ease

down during the fighting on a score of fronts during the last five and a half years. The Wehrmacht of January 1945 is a pale shadow of the Wehrmacht which crashed into Poland in September 1939!

While Himmler is doing his best for the total mobilisation of the German people, he finds suddenly that just when the war has begun to roll over the sacred soil of the Fatherland itself, there are simply no trained reserves to be rushed to the Russian front. The Reich itself has begun to shrink but many of the elite divisions instead of being ready to defend it are

colossal gains which the Red Army has achieved within exactly a fortnight, is the supreme confidence and clockwork precision with which the battle of Germany is mounting towards its climax. It is as if a well-rehearsed symphony is reaching its grand finale in a rhythmic pattern. Not one jarring note has been heard so far, not one false key has been struck. And like a maestro swinging his baton stands Stalin issuing his Orders of the Day!

And so we wait with bated breath for the words to come over the ether—"Germany capitulates!" But let us recall that four months ago, as the Allies raced through France and took their battle stations on the Siegfried Line, similar hopes surged in our hearts. Badly bitten then, let us be sober to-day. For the Nazis may still pull up a fast one in some secret, diabolical weapon. Already the gruesome spectre of gas warfare is casting its shadow..... Mere threats of ten-fold retaliation are not going to deter the fanatical Nazis from using the most deadly engines of death. They have not long left to decide now!

A WEEK OF WAR By N. G. Jog

and facility of a conjurer producing rabbits from his hat. Though seven well-knit and distinct army groups are already fighting independently from Baltic to Budapest, Stalin announced a still new offensive to the north of Minsk in the middle of the last week!

These thunderbolts from the blue have completely bewildered the Wehrmacht. Suendermann, Assistant Press Chief of the Reich had to shamefully confess the other day that the German High Command has not yet been able to find the definite centres of

strung out from Norway to Italy, holding secondary profitless fronts in the supreme hour of crisis.

Apart from Norway and Italy where 40 to 50 divisions are committed, there are at least ten divisions in what Hitler still grandiloquently calls his Atlantic Front. No doubt the strategy of leaving suicide troops to hold the channel ports like St. Nazaire and Lorient has paid a certain dividend by delaying Eisenhower's offensive. But the hundred thousand men who are holding these distant outposts are a dead loss to



ON TO BERLIN

gravity of the Russian offensive! A grim evidence of the utter confusion of German strategy is provided by the report that the Russian break-through to the Vistula estuary has trapped German Army groups estimated at 200,000 men!

Earlier doubts as to whether this apparently pell-mell withdrawal across Poland and East Prussia was part of some far-sighted Nazi strategy—as the retreat from France last summer has proved to be—may well be dismissed now in view of the admission of German spokesmen down from Dr. Goebbels himself. It is true that there are not many reports of prisoners taken, which is the traditional criterion of a victory. It is obvious, however, that the Red Army is not bothering to put the smashed divisions into cages much less to count their number. It is after a far higher prize—Berlin itself—which must be reached as quickly as possible. The large number of German army groups which are isolated and disintegrated have to surrender in time—unless they want to be frozen to death! Their counting may well wait.

Lack Of Man-Power

The simple explanation of the crushing German reverses seems to be that Hitler simply has not the man-power left to resist the sea of the Red Army. "We are abandoned and alone," wails Goebbels. All the satellites and stooges have vanished. The German army has paid a frightful price for Adolf Hitler's programme of world conquest and the flower of German youth has been mowed

the Wehrmacht just when they were wanted most. Many of them are trained veterans and they would have been extremely in strengthening the "Volkssturm" which is being thrown in the path of the Red Army's juggernaut.

Like A Symphony

Then Rundstedt is said to be refusing to release any units from the Western front, which sounds plausible in view of the tenacity with which he is feeding his attacks in the Alsace sector. Though some of them may have been already switched back, the forces which launched his Ardennes offensive were partially drawn from the Eastern Front. At least a hundred thousand of them are wiped off from the Wehrmacht for good and whatever gains Rundstedt may show for this heavy cost on the Western front have to be offset by the disasters on the Eastern Front.

Over and above all this Hitler has committed a far larger army for the defence of Budapest than he could afford! The prolonged lull on the Polish front and the concentrated attention which the Red Army was apparently devoting to the Hungarian front seem to have completely fooled the Nazi General Staff. Not only was Budapest defended block by block, but the Stalingrad strategy was carried to the extent of dispatching a large force to relieve it! It almost seems as if Hitler was deliberately tempted to walk up the garden path in Budapest and the Ardennes while the last touches were being given to the grand offensive on the Vistula.

More inspiring than the concrete

CITY MARKETS

Gold & Silver

BOMBAY, Jan. 27. The Bullion market suffered a heavy decline today on extensive selling and long liquidation induced by favour war news and hopes of an early peace. Forward Silver opened at Rs. 127/4 and after advancing to Rs. 127/8 declined to Rs. 125. Ready Silver was quoted at a premium of annas six at Rs. 125/6. Forward Gold opened at Rs. 69 and after improving to Rs. 69/4 declined to Rs. 67/8 and steadied at Rs. 67/12. Ready Silver and quoted at Rs. 67/12/6. Tone was weak and the market was nervous with uncertain tendency.

Later on there was increased covering and closing quotations were as under. Ready Silver Rs. 126/8, Forward Rs. 126. Ready Gold Rs. 69/1, Forward Rs. 69.

Bombay Cotton

BOMBAY, Jan. 27. The cotton market opened today at Rs. 465 for March delivery and improved to Rs. 466. Later on the market declined to Rs. 463/8 on moderate profit taking which was well absorbed.

Later on there was increased realising absence of confirmation of vague peace rumours and March declined to Rs. 458/8 closing quotations at 6 p.m. were as under.

I.C.C. March	458 12 0
I.C.C. May	468 12 0
I.C.C. July	478 4 0

INDIAN COTTON PARITY

Indian Cotton March Contract is 384 cent points below New York March at Exchange rate v31.

HEDGE SELLING IN N. Y.

COTTON MARKET

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. After some overnight price-fixing the market eased on persistent dribbling liquidation and hedges and indifferent offtake owing to continued favourable war news and post-war and future farm legislation uncertainties which were most discussed factors. Prices eventually steadied on trade support and technical considerations. In the afternoon the market eased on renewed dribbling liquidation and hedges which offset price-fixing possibly against reported Spanish acceptances. The session closed barely steady.

March opened at 21.82 and after advancing to 21.84 declined to 21.72. The market closed at a decline of 5 to 11 points. Spot cotton price declined 7 points at 22.08c per lb.

NEW YORK COTTON

March	21.72-08
May	21.53-11
July	21.18-08
October	20.54-06
December	20.47-05
January	20.41-05
March highest (2-21 p.m.)	21.84-04
March lowest (3 p.m.)	21.72-08
Middling Spot	22.08-07

NEW ORLEANS COTTON

March	21.69-12
May	21.56-10
July	21.21-09
Middling Spot	21.15-10

NOON CALL

March	21.74
May	21.89
July	21.20

INDIAN STOCK EXCHANGE

BOMBAY, Jan. 27. Tata Ordinary 394 Tata Deferred 2090 Indian Iron 38/8 Steel Corp. of Bengal 31/8 Bombay Dyeing 1252/8 Central India 385 Gokak 290 Kohinoor 585 Simplex 250 Andhra Valley 1810 Tata Hydro 208/12 Tata Power 1882/8 Associated Cement 233 Belapur 218/12 Bombay Burma (Old) 540

COTTON PRESSED.

Pressings during the week ending 12th January, 1945 103,578; 1944 142,819. Total Pressings from 1st September to 12th January, 1945 854,650; 1944 1,208,492.

Press Emergency Act Must Be Repealed

"Bureaucrats Need Not Get Panicky & Run Amok"

ACTION ON NEWSPAPERS, VIOLATION OF DELHI AGREEMENT

Brelvi's Call To Proprietors: Plea For Fair Deal To Working Journalists

In view of the altered aspect of the war and the internal situation in the country, there is no further need for the Press Emergency and Princes Protection Acts and the amendments to other normal and wartime Press Laws and they must be forthwith repealed, said Mr. S. A. Brelvi in the course of his presidential address to the fourth session of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference at Calcutta on Saturday morning.

Breach Of Delhi Agreement

Referring to the orders against the "Amrit Bazar Patrika", and the "Leader" of Allahabad, and the "National Herald" of Lucknow, Mr. Brelvi characterised the action of the Magistrates as deplorable tantamount to the violation of the Delhi and Bombay Agreements.

Fair Deal To Working Journalists

Making a strong plea for a fair deal to working journalists Mr. Brelvi hoped that newspaper proprietors "will not only implement the agreed proposals regarding Provident Fund and leave rules but will also deal promptly and generously with the questions of minimum salary, annual increment scale and payment to correspondents."

The following are excerpts from either of Government or private agencies.

"Though this conference was brought into being four years ago to meet a grave crisis that faced the Press in this country, it has come to stay and I have not the slightest doubt in my mind that not only will it continue to exist after the war but it will also have a great and increasingly useful role to play in the future in helping the Press in India to become one of the great forces contributing to the extension of the bounds of human freedom, knowledge, progress and happiness. By its very composition it belongs to no particular party. It seeks to achieve objects which every newspaper must consider as its own. It has a large membership and the number of its members is steadily increasing. May I take this opportunity of appealing to those newspapers which, owing to indifference or other reasons, have not yet joined this conference, to do so as soon as possible? This Conference has, during the brief period of its existence, become a great power. It can become a greater power for the service of the country and its Press if it continues to receive the active and loyal adherence and support of newspapers in the country."

NEWS CHARTER FOR WORLD

Referring to the proposal put forward by the American Society of Newspaper Editors for a news charter for the world, Mr. Brelvi said:

Nothing could be more welcome to us than this world movement for a guarantee of freedom of the press written into peace treaties in definite and unequivocal language. But bitter experience has taught us to beware of fine phrases which are not translated into deeds. Few countries have suffered in the past and still continue to suffer more than India from systematic and purposeful distortion, perversion and choking of news channels. Not only has India been grossly misrepresented abroad but she has also not known a genuinely free press at home. More than the free nations of the world we in India have a vivid realization of the truth that peace among nations cannot be maintained unless true democracy is established in every part of the world and that true democracy itself cannot exist without those vital freedoms of which freedom of the Press is the most important.

TASK FOR INDIAN PRESS

For countries like India a News Charter, even if embodied in peace treaties, will not be worth the paper on which it is written unless the peace treaties usher in the dissolution of imperialism as well as the destruction of Nazism and Fascism. The Press in India has thus to work both for its own freedom and that of the country. We stand, first and foremost, for the political freedom of India. We stand for freedom of the Press. We stand for the emancipation of the radio as well as all other channels of information from monopolistic control

While we shall co-operate with our American friends in the task they have set out to accomplish, we cannot forget that we have an urgent problem of our own to solve and we must insist that, in the meanwhile, the Press in India should be placed on the same footing as is the Press in Britain and in the United States.

REPEAL THEM

In the United States freedom of the Press is guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution. The British Press is in fact as free as the Press in the U.S.A., though there are no positive statutory provisions guaranteeing such freedom. In our own country not only is freedom of the Press not guaranteed but it is also, seriously restricted. The laws which fetter the freedom of the journalist are as formidable as they are numerous. It is true that the Press Act of 1910 of odious memory was repealed in 1922. But, unfortunately, not a few of its sinister provisions continue to be embedded in the Press Emergency Act and the Princes Protection Act, not to speak of the onerous provisions of the Indian Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes and the Customs, Post Offices and Registration of Books Acts. The time has come when we should demand the immediate repeal of the Press Emergency and the Princes Protection Acts and the necessary amendment of the Penal and the Criminal Procedure Codes and other Acts so as to make the Press Law in this country no more restrictive than is the Press Law in the U.S.A. or Great Britain.

D. I. R.

I have deliberately refrained from making a reference to the Defence of India Rules and the Press Instructions issued in pursuance of these rules. We recognize that, in times of war, freedom of the Press must be restricted so as to prevent the publication of news valuable to the enemy and our agreement with the Government of India, known as the Delhi Agreement, is based on the recognition of this vital fact. We have agreed not to impede war effort, but at the same time we have made it plain that we cannot and we will not be a party to the suppression of normal political activity in the name of war. Our complaint against the Government is that they have, on many occasions, used the powers given to them under the Defence of India Rules not strictly and exclusively to secure the unhampered prosecution of the war but to serve their own political ends by suppressing news and views not palatable to them. The Defence of India Rules were promulgated five years ago and so were the Press Instructions based on them. Many of these rules and instructions are drastic enough to enable the Government to deal with any writings in the press which may be valuable to the enemy or are likely to impede war efforts and do not need a resort to the Press Emergency Act which must, therefore, be repealed immediately. But there are a number of these rules and instructions which, in view of the altered situation in the war and the internal situation in the country, have become either unnecessary or unduly restrictive of the legitimate function-

ing of the press. Similarly the political situation in the country has so completely changed as to justify a revision of the Bombay resolution so as to leave the Press completely unfettered to ventilate legitimate grievances regarding, for instance, the treatment of political prisoners and detenus and the misuse of their powers by the police.

The revision of the Bombay resolution and the modification of Defence of India Rules and Press Instructions do not brook delay and may I suggest that this Conference should appoint a committee to suggest the directions in which the revision and modification may take place or ask the Standing Committee to deal with the matter as soon as possible. May I also express the hope that the members of the Central Legislature and other public organizations will give urgent attention to the need, in the interests of the country as well as the Press, for the repeal of the Press Emergency and Princes Protection Acts and the amendments to other normal and wartime press laws?

PRESS ADVISORY COMMITTEES

If we succeed in this attempt to make the Press in India as free as is the Press in Britain and the U.S.A., we shall have taken a very great step forward in achieving the second object of our Conference which is to safeguard the right of the Press in general and in particular the freedom of publication of news and comment. This and another object of our Conference, namely, representing the Press in its relations with Government, we have been so far seeking to achieve through the consultative machinery established as a result of the Delhi Agreement. This machinery has been functioning in most provinces and you will be glad to know that, during the year, the Government of Behar and the Government of Orissa also agreed to the establishment of Provincial Advisory Committees in their respective provinces and these committees have been formed. I trust both these Governments will see that the fullest possible use is made of these Committees to secure the harmonious working of the Delhi Agreement in their respective provinces. Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghose and Mr. W. C. Wordsworth were deputed by the Standing Committee to interview the Governor of Orissa in connection with establishment of the Provincial Advisory Committee. They also met the representatives of the Orissa Press. The formation of the Orissa Provincial Advisory Committee is, in no small measure, due to their efforts and on your behalf I take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of these efforts. In the Punjab the consultative machinery has been more or less in a state of suspended animation. When a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Conference was held in Lahore in October last, an opportunity was given to the members of the Committee to have discussions with the Premier of the Punjab and his colleagues in the Ministry and also with some representatives of the Punjab Press. I am glad to inform you that, as a result of these discussions, there are hopeful prospects of satisfactory working of the consultative machinery in that province and that very soon the reconstituted Punjab Provincial Advisory Committee will begin work. During my recent visit to the North West Frontier province, I had interviews with the Governor and Premier of that province both of whom expressed their agreement to the establishment of an advisory committee and I have every hope that in this province, too, a committee will soon begin to function.

DELHI & BOMBAY AGREEMENTS

The establishment of the consultative machinery is one thing; its satisfactory working is, however, a different thing. Last year this Conference noted with regret that this machinery was not uniformly helpful in all provinces and that there were complaints from several provinces that the Press Advisory Committees were not consulted and that where their advice was sought it was sometimes ignored without sufficient justification and that if the press advisory system was to endure, there should be greater regard and respect shown to the recommendations of the Committee by Governments.

There are officials who hold a strange notion about the co-operation that we and the Government desire should exist between us for carrying out, in the letter and the spirit, the Delhi and Bombay Agreements. They seem to think that the whole object of the consultative machinery is to harmonize relations between Government and the Press in order to promote war effort and they would like to penalise newspapers which fail to support war effort. Under the Delhi Agreement this Conference has certainly agreed that the Press will not impede war effort which, however, is not the same thing as saying that it has undertaken to promote war effort. The distinction may be a fine one, but it is there and failure on the part of some officials to bear it in mind has led in the past and is likely to lead

in the future to the violation of the Agreement.

Some officials misinterpreted the Delhi Agreement and the Bombay resolution by seeking to prevent the publication of statements of some Congress leaders even if they did not contravene their provisions. The Standing Committee, therefore, in its meeting in March last year, passed a resolution making it quite clear that under the Delhi Agreement and the Bombay Resolution the Press was free to publish statements by any political leader so long as they did not contravene the terms of the Agreement and the resolution and it protested against the imposition of restrictions in this respect on the basis of the character of the organization to which a particular person belonged.

PRECENSORSHIP

Unfortunately, the most flagrant violation of the Agreement between the Government and the Press was made by the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, the seat of the Government of India. In January last year the "National Call" and the "Hindustan Times" published a report of a press conference held by Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, a member of the Congress Working Committee. There was nothing in the report which was repugnant to the Delhi Agreement or the Bombay resolution and the Central Press Advisory Committee, which was consulted, held that no action was called for and yet orders of pre-censorship were served on these two papers. The obnoxious character of these orders was aggravated by subjecting comments also to pre-censorship. Nor was that all. The circumstances in which the Orders were passed suggested that press advice was obligatory. The Standing Committee, therefore, while demanding the immediate withdrawal of the orders, considered it necessary to reiterate that press advice was not obligatory on editors and its rejection by itself did not constitute an offence. The orders were allowed to continue for sometime and then withdrawn.

ORDER ON MRS. NAIDU

Similarly deplorable was the order served on Mrs. Sarojini Naidu prohibiting her from making statements of any kind, whether prejudicial or otherwise, to the Press. This was not merely an inexcusable misuse of the powers vested in the Executive under the Defence of India Rules but was also an unwarranted interference with the liberty of the Press.

RESPECT THAT CONVENTION

The Government of the Central Provinces forfeited the security of the "Nagpur Times" and also ordered the prosecution of the Editors, Assistant Editor and Publishers of that paper and the "Hitavada" without consulting the Press Advisory Committee. The action of the Government in prosecuting the Assistant Editors, who are not legally responsible for what is published in a newspaper, was most extraordinary and constituted a deplorable breach of the universally recognized convention of the journalistic profession that responsibility for any publication should be fixed only on the Editor, the Printer and the Publisher and not on any subordinate member of the editorial staff. I trust that, in future, Government will see that this convention is respected.

Soon after the arrest of Gandhi in 1942, the Government of Bombay took possession of the Navliyan Press where "Harijan" was published and valuable old files of "Harijan" and other important papers and documents were destroyed by a subordinate officer acting under Government instruction. The Standing Committee, at its meeting held at Karachi in July, having before it the correspondence between Mahatma Gandhi and the Bombay Government narrating the circumstances which led to this act of vandalism, protested against it and asked Government that, in future, in no circumstances should orders be given to damage or destroy old files of newspapers and documents which were in the nature of recorded history. The Committee's demand is so reasonable that no Government, which has respect for dependencies of public life, should refuse to satisfy it.

GROSS VIOLATION OF AGREEMENT

In October without consultation with the Provincial Press Advisory Committee an order was served by the Allahabad District Magistrate on the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" and the "Leader" requiring these papers to submit all matter printed in them to scrutiny by a sub-inspector of police. Under the Agreement between the Government of India and this Conference while editors have undertaken to be their own censors, Government have, on their part, undertaken not to impose general orders of pre-censorship on newspapers. The Allahabad order was a gross violation of this agreement, besides being an affront to responsible editors who were subjected to the indignity of submitting their writings to the scrutiny of a sub-inspector of police. The fact that this order was withdrawn within twenty-four hours is no guarantee against such stupid orders being issued by other officials unless the Government of India take effective measures.

(Continued on Page 12)

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Applicants should state their age and full particulars of their academic qualifications and experience in teaching and research in their applications which should be accompanied by a précis of the particulars to be furnished in a statement form which may be obtained from the undersigned.

Applications with copies of testimonials (which will not be returned) must reach the undersigned on or before the 30th April 1945.

J. CHAKRAVORTI,
Registrar.

Senate House:
The 17th January 1945.

1915

PRESS EMERGENCY ACT MUST BE REPEALED

(Continued from Page 11.)

sure to prevent panicky bureaucrats from running amok. The District Magistrate of Wardha issued instructions to the local Telegraph authorities to submit all Press telegrams to him for approval. Such instructions constitute a clear abuse of the provisions of the Indian Telegraph Act which empower Telegraph authorities to refer only such messages as they consider objectionable to the District Magistrate for approval.

"SENTINEL" CASE

In April last year a terrible tragedy overtook Bombay as a result of explosions in the docks. The "Bombay Sentinel", partly as a protest against what it regarded as misuse of censorship and partly for technical reasons, published one of its pages with blank columns with a caption. The Government of Bombay took a needlessly panicky view of this and ordered the suspension of the paper. Some days later, largely as a result of the intervention of the Provincial Press Advisory Committee, the order was cancelled.

The "National Herald" of Lucknow suspended publication in 1942. Last year its promoters wanted to resume publication, but the Government of Sir Maurice Hallett, for reasons of their own, seem to have made up their mind not to allow this paper to be published. This is a most arbitrary and indefensible exercise of power vested in the Executive under the Defence of India Rules. The "National Herald", as a member of this Conference, is a party to the latter's Agreement with the Government. So long as the paper adheres to that Agreement Government have no right to continue the ban against it, especially in view of the altered political situation in the country.

In spite of the protest of the Standing Committee of this Conference, the ban on Mr. Louis Fischer's articles still continues.

I have no desire to take a gloomy view of the working of the consultative machinery. There is a bright side to the picture. The consultative machinery, wherever it has been given a fair and honest trial as especially in Bombay and Madras, has demonstrated its potentialities for good both to the Press and the Government.

NEWSPRINT SITUATION

The newsprint situation, from all accounts, has improved considerably and stocks in increasing quantity are accumulating but, in proportion to this improvement, the action taken by the Government in fixing quotas of newsprint is needlessly halting and niggardly. The need for prudence in this matter is obvious, but it should not be carried further than the necessities of the situation require.

Making a plea for a fair deal to Working Journalists, Mr. Brelvi said:

Last year referring to the first object of our Conference, namely, preserving the high traditions and standards of journalism, I ventured to urge that if our traditions and standards were to be preserved at the highest levels, the Press must continually attract to its service men who, in their mental and moral equipment, represented the best that our country produced and that the Press could not attract such men to its service unless it made it worth their while to work for it. I pleaded for a fair deal to be given to the working journalists and for the enforcement of minimum standards of payment and conditions of work, especially in view of the present propitious time when the newspaper industry was financially in a much stronger position than ever before. No body realizes more keenly than I do that, as in other countries, it is only the powerful sanction which working journalists can evolve through an organized trade union of their own that an improvement in their economic status and working conditions according to their desires and needs can be brought about. But Editors, to whom journalists working under them look for guidance and protection, cannot shirk their responsibility in this matter.

ANSWER TO STANDING COMMITTEE CRITICS

The Standing Committee has come in for a good deal of strong criticism by Journalists' Associations all over the country on the question of minimum salary and the distinction made as regards this minimum between the English and the Indian language newspapers. In the discussion which the Subramaniam Committee had with the Committees of the proprietorial organisations, it was urged on behalf of the latter that, if the same minimum basic salary was accepted for both English and Indian language newspapers, a great many papers published in the Indian languages would find it very difficult to afford paying the minimum. Let me, on your behalf, assure the working journalists that the distinction made between the minimum salaries in English and Indian language newspapers is neither of the Editors' seeking nor accords with their desire and they would heartily welcome its immediate abolition. Let me also make it quite clear that the plea of inability to pay of a large number of Indian language

newspapers was the sole consideration which weighed with the Standing Committee when it passed its Lahore resolution and nothing was further from the minds of its members than to suggest that the journalists working on the staffs of Indian language newspapers were in any way inferior to those working for English papers. Speaking for myself I have not the slightest doubt that the Indian language Press in the very near future will become the more flourishing, the more influential and the more dominant member of our journalistic family. I am fully conscious that whatever improvement has been achieved, largely through the efforts of this Conference, in the economic position of the working journalists is much less than is due to them. As soon as it is possible the minimum salary must be increased, a time-scale of increment must be introduced and the just claims of correspondents of newspapers must be satisfied. I hope newspaper proprietors will not only immediately implement the agreed proposals regarding provident fund and leave rules but will also deal promptly and generously with the questions of minimum salary, annual increment scale and payment to correspondents and avoid the edium of refusing to share, in an adequate measure, their present prosperity with men who have hitherto cheerfully contented themselves with very meagre salaries without the hope of a pension or the security of a Provident Fund. They must deal with these questions promptly and generously because the improvement of the standards of journalism in our country and the increasing efficiency of the Press as an instrument of national progress depend largely on whether the working journalists are paid adequately or not. They also depend on how the working journalists discharge their own responsibilities. A Free Press is a mighty engine. Our main occupation will be to make our Press free. But whether we shall use this freedom for good or evil will depend entirely on ourselves. The opportunities of manifold services to the people which a Free India will give to the Press will be unprecedented in the history of the Press. We have to be worthy of using these opportunities by ensuring for journalism rising standards of competence, responsibility, integrity, objectivity, disinterestedness and charity.

Chairmen's Welcome Address

CALCUTTA, Jan. 27

"The achievements of Indian newspapers have been such as would be considered creditable in any country. People are prone to say that modesty is incompatible with our profession. Still I will not call our achievements triumphs. But I cannot refrain from mentioning that they have been accomplished under conditions which are unknown in Europe and America where foreign domination does not exist and where people hold the opinion that good government cannot be a substitute for self-government." Thus observed Mr. Hemendra Prasad Ghosh, Chairman of the Reception Committee of the fourth session of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference which commenced at the Senate Hall to-day.

Mr. Ghosh mentioned some of the vicissitudes through which the Press in India had passed, showing that the struggle of the Press began almost from the day of its appearance, but acts, ordinances and orders invented by bureaucrats had been powerless to crush the Press in India which had to labour under peculiar difficulties and brave dangers which are unknown to the Press in self-governing countries.

Mr. Ghosh also referred to the laudable part played by journalists all over India during the Bengal famine of 1943 when they exposed the 'maladministration' in Bengal, the autocratic action of a Governor who declined to consult the collective wisdom of his Ministers, the inaction of a supine Viceroy and the unsympathetic attitude of a Secretary of State for India which were responsible for the sufferings of Bengal. It was an achievement of which journalism of any country could feel proud.

Concluding, Mr. Ghosh said: "We

are all aware of the baptism of fire—I purposely refrain from calling it martyrdom—of so many of our journalists. My heart goes out in sympathy to our colleagues who are still suffering incarceration for their opinion.—United Press.

A. I. N. E. C. Opens

CALCUTTA, Jan. 27: The inaugural session of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference commenced to-day in the Senate of the Calcutta University which was tastefully decorated. Mr. S. A. Brelvi, President, took the chair. Over 400 delegates, besides members of the Reception Committee and distinguished visitors, attended.

After garlanding the President, Mr. Hemendra Prasad Ghosh, Chairman of the Reception Committee, read out his address. Thereafter the President delivered his speech.

The session was adjourned at 1-30 p.m. for lunch given by the Chairman of the Reception Committee at the Senate Hall grounds. The Subjects Committee is meeting at the Senate Hall.

Dr. B. C. Roy will meet the members at his residence on behalf of the Bengal Medical Relief Co-ordination Committee this evening.—United Press.

International Air Conference

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.

Mr. C. D. Howe, Canadian Reconstruction Minister, announced here that Montreal had been described as Headquarters of the Provisional International Air Organisation, set up at the Chicago Air Conference and the United States at which the new transborder air routes were designated.—Reuter.

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It is with the greatest possible regret that the South Indian Railway Administration has to announce to the public that it will not be possible to make any special arrangements whatever for the ensuing Mahamagham Festival at Kumbakonam in February 1945 and that no special trains can be run for the Festival. With a view to avoid overcrowding in trains, booking of accommodation will be strictly restricted at stations. The public are, therefore, warned to avoid travel by rail to Kumbakonam for the purpose of attending this Festival. This decision has been forced upon the Railway by conditions arising out of the War and much as it is to be regretted it is, unfortunately, unavoidable.

ed and the Chinese Republic was proclaimed.

Counterrevolution And The Foreign Powers

After the overthrow of the Ching dynasty and the establishment of the republic, the Chinese people assumed that their revolution had succeeded. They set about establishing a government, but had no experience in administration. They did not know that a mere change of government could do little to uplift the deteriorated morale of a people. They did not realize that the greatest obstacle to their self-determination was their lack of national independence resulting from the Unequal Treaties.

The more zealous attempted to imitate the form of government of the western democracies. They did not know that the simple overthrow of an autocracy did not by itself establish the principles of democratic government. They were innocently unaware that democracy is a process of development.

That is why, during the first 13 years of the Chinese Republic, the national revolution met with innumerable setbacks. These setbacks directly or indirectly, were the result of power politics—the result of action taken by the foreign powers. These countries saw that their privileges were threatened by the emergence of an independent, democratic China.

After the revolution, agents of foreign imperialism intensified their secret activities. Their activities were directed toward increasing the internal strife in China, and they succeeded. Their extra-territorial privileges gave protection to their spies and special agents. Outlaw Chinese war lords existed by their bribery.

Not only did imperialism obtain special privileges by coercion and flowery promises—it even interfered directly with China's internal affairs. This was especially true in inter-provincial border disputes. In 1910 the province of Outer Mongolia was influenced by Czarist Russia to declare her independence from China. Soon afterwards, the Russians took over all positions of power in that province. After the Russian revolution, the Mongolians denounced their separatist independence and voluntarily returned to China's fold.

After the revolution, agents of imperialism concentrated their secret activities on the counter-revolution—on efforts to overthrow the republic. Foreign agents promoted the internal strife that ravaged China for many years. They did their destructive work quite openly, even brazenly. The reason: the spies and special agents assigned to this were protected by extra-territoriality. They could not be brought to justice by the Chinese.

Nor were their counter-revolutionary activities confined to the foreign concessions and adjacent areas. Special privileges they enjoyed on the railways made it possible for them to accumulate and distribute arms and ammunition all over the land.

The legation quarter in Peiping, and the wagons-lits on the Nanking Railway were the means of transportation and communication between the war lords and the foreign powers. How could the Chinese Government check such subversive movements? The supply of arms depended on transportation, and transportation in these areas was completely under the control of the foreign powers.

Result of this constant bribery was that imperialism had many willing recruits. Political failures and unsuccessful aspirants for office in China offered their services to imperialism. So did those who were driven from power by the revolution. Thus the country was broken up into feudal baronies, with the war lords as autocratic rulers.

Now that they had established their police forces, the foreign powers took yet another step. This was to prevent the Chinese Government from regaining its judicial powers. The imperialists claimed that both China's judiciary and her prisons were outmoded and archaic.

Yet the facts were that the courts and prisons inside the concessions were sometimes much worse than the ancient Chinese penal institutions. Treatment of prisoners was cruel and inhuman. This was especially true in the Special Police Prison in the Shanghai International Settlement. Chinese prisoners there were brutally manhandled. There were two kinds of justice: the rich could gain their freedom by posting a heavy bond while the poor were left to the mercy of police officials and foreign magistrates.

The Chinese Government realized that it was gradually becoming enslaved within its own country. It made a determined move to abolish the Unequal Treaties, and to do away with the special privileges of customs and tariffs enjoyed by the imperialist powers. This demand that China should regain control of her own economy came from the people. It was one of the principal points of the Chinese revolution. But any attempt to accomplish it met with determined opposition from the foreign powers.

All this together which the forceful imposition of opium and narcotics had a far-reaching effect on

'CHINA'S DESTINY'

(Continued From Page 3)

Chinese morals. The foreign concessions became storehouses of narcotics and asylums for addicts. After the Russo-Japanese war, the Japanese imperialists decided to weaken the moral and physical fibre of China. They not only encouraged but enforced the sale of opium. They poisoned the Chinese people to such an extent that in certain areas of the provinces of Hupeh and Shantung, almost 100 per cent of the population was addicted to narcotics.

The Japanese scheme was apparent: they were determined to exterminate our people.

Evil begets evil. The wholesale addition to narcotics made the concessions the breeding grounds for harlots and robbers. The girls from farming districts, facing starvation, migrated to the cities. They were unable to find work, and were sold into houses of prostitution.

During the past century, the prosperous cities of China were in reality living hells. Gambling, prostitution, narcoticism, and robbery in one century erased 5000 years of honesty, morality and industry.

This moral deterioration played havoc with the health of the nation. The unemployed and the poor suffered from malnutrition. The prevalence of venereal diseases further weakened the national health.

The Chinese people fully appreciate that while there is a lot they can learn from foreign philosophies, the philosophies of life founded by Confucius, expanded by Mencius, and further developed by various scholars of the Han dynasty, are superior to the other philosophies.

The inflow of Buddhism, Islamism and Christianity was welcomed by Chinese philosophers, and eventually merged into the original Chinese philosophy of life. Because of this habit of assimilation of religion and culture, China never experienced religious wars.

Christianity especially made a great contribution to Chinese culture. As well as introducing foreign philosophy, art and literature, it disseminated scientific learning and social reforms. But the Chinese people had been taught about foreign imperialism by bitter experience. And they looked upon Christianity, too, as a form of aggression. The consequence was that Christianity in China suffered as a result of the existence of the Unequal Treaties.

The New Era

On October 10, 1942, the Governments of the United States and Great Britain simultaneously sent an important notice to the Government of China. They announced their readiness to abolish their extra-territorial rights in China, and to do away with all related privileges.

Under this arrangement, China re-assumes control over all her territories. The new treaties were actually signed on January 11, 1943. That is a significant date in Chinese history. It marked the hundredth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Nanking, under which China relinquished control over her own domain—the treaty which marked the beginning of the decline of China, and the beginning of her national disgrace.

This final abolishing of the Unequal Treaties is not only the most important event in our modern history, but augurs well for the rest of the world. It clearly proves the true aims of the United Nations. This great act dealt the aggressor nations a heavy blow. These two new treaties will serve as a blueprint for new post-war treaties between China and other nations.

The only remaining unsatisfactory point in the British-Chinese treaty is the unsettled nature with regard to the leased territory of Kowloon. Our Government has formally notified Great Britain that we still reserve the right to reopen negotiations for the return of Kowloon.

We fully realize that because Kowloon and Hong Kong adjoin each other, a simultaneous settlement of both problems is imperative. There may be reason for Britain's delay. But we in China believe that the British Government will not allow this bullet-sized area to impair the permanent friendly relations between Great Britain and China.

Nevertheless, abolition of the Unequal Treaties is only the first step in our national revolution.

China is now a world power. But she must put her own house in order before she can rightfully assume her position among the great nations of the world. In other words, she must finish her task of national political and economic reconstruction. This revolutionary reconstruction will follow the attainment of national sovereignty. Next will come national economic self-sufficiency, to give a higher standard of living to the great mass of our people.

Our National Father, Sun Yat-sen, divided the steps of revolution into three phases: military tutelage, political tutelage and, finally, constitutional government. Through all these three phases, we must seek to improve the education of our people; we must be militarily prepared; and we must strengthen our economy. We must strengthen our economy, we must strengthen our economy, we must strengthen our economy.

sible phases is to weaken the nation.

I always say, you must be strong before you can be free. And you must be able to stand by yourself, before you can be independent. With regard to military affairs, we should work for the union of civilization and national defence, so that China will become strong and organized. Only thus can China survive and carry out her duty towards the preservation of world peace and the emancipation of mankind.

The most urgent demand in China's rejuvenation is the process of industrialization. Therefore, we should prepare to carry out the "Industrial Plans." In order to raise China's economy to the level of the other nations, our industry must be emancipated from the various oppressions and restrictions. In other words, we should start with the small things and go to the big things.

Our economic reconstruction must be based on the maxim: "everything to be enjoyed by the people." We should plan the construction of society and economics in such a way that they will guarantee the peoples' livelihood and survival. Here are our aims: in the matter of capital, it should be nationalized; in the matter of benefits from this capital, they should be for everybody.

Our task should not be difficult. For example, if we compare China with Japan, Japan has only one-eighth of China's population and territory. Therefore, if Japan takes eight to ten years to accomplish a certain work, China should be able to do it in one or two years.

In the post-war period, any citizen who has any special training should try to do the work of two men, and should do the work of two days in one day. One Chinese proverb says: "When you see a lot of fish in the stream, it is better to stop admiring them and go back and make yourself a net." When we see the rich and strong nations, we should be stimulated in our efforts to make China as strong as they are, and to attain a happier and healthier population.

Our Government should unite with the people, in planning for the development of agriculture, to get adequate food for everybody. We must develop the textile industry, to get enough clothing. We must build more houses, so that the people may be happy in their homes. There must be extensive construction and repair of roads and waterways.

As a nation, we must avoid breaking laws and running away from responsibilities. We should be willing to take on duties which other people are unwilling to shoulder. We must be ready to endure hardships which others cannot endure. This is especially so in the case of our youth. Whenever there is war, they should go to the front lines. Whenever there is pioneering work, they should go to the farthest points in the country. In social work, they should go deep into the farming hamlets. They should sweep away their habit of loitering in cities during peace and running to the rear during wartime.

As to world economics, there must be free trade and mutual help in developing natural resources. What is more important, there must be equal development of the productivity of the different nations and races. The "Greater Europe" policy of the Nazis and the policy of Japan to have "an industrial Japan and an agricultural Asia" are harmful to mankind. Without an equal development of the productivities of the various nations and races, their political freedom and equality will eventually be destroyed by aggression. From now on, any teachings about cultural superiority or racial superiority should be forever banished from the world. If peace is to be preserved.

To stop war, we must purify the roots of wars and not only limit the weapons for war. Improvements and scientific discoveries are really meant to serve mankind. In order to have a lasting peace, the end of the second world war should see the end of the school of thought which believes in enslaving mankind by technique.

In order to resist any future external aggression, we should forget personal freedom and become in our national organization as hard as a rock. We must cease to enjoy this "loose-sand" freedom in order to organize into a rocky national defence.

The most careless people in the world are the gypsies. We know that the freedom of the gypsy is without responsibility. Internally they have no regulations; externally they have no organisation. That is why they have become the lowest group in the world. They are despised wherever they go. We must not reach the freedom of the gypsies. We have inherited the property of our ancestors, are waging the holy war of resistance, and are going to found a nation in all seriousness. We must also beware of untrue and

insincere theories presented in attractive-sounding terms. For instance, Nazi or international principles may sound persuasive and logical, but if we search for their real motives, we see that they would do away with racial loyalty, and would be detrimental to our country. As our National Father said, those countries who would conquer others with imperialism would try to preserve their special positions by promoting internationalism in order to submerge racial loyalty.

Our National Father likened those who talk about internationalism at the expense of racial loyalty to the coolie who, after learning he had won a lottery, destroyed the bamboo pole with which he had been making his living. But he had hidden the lottery ticket in the bamboo pole. This is just an example to show how—if we in China talk about internationalism without racial loyalty—we would be faced with the danger of losing the life of our nation.

THE LAST PAGE

(Continued From Page 18)

and responsibilities—on the British model.

Land For the Tiller

The second part of the Constitution lays down a "National Economic Plan" which aims at "National Self-sufficiency," "raising of the standard of living," and "production for use and not for exchange." The Agricultural Plan is based on abolition of landlordism, land to the tiller co-operative association of peasants for production and sale of crops, people's control of the forests and a ban on export, unless the seeds of the state have been provided for. Detailed provisions are made for the protection of the rights of the peasantry. Those who have seen the abysmal poverty of the Kashmiri Kisans will appreciate how desperately they need a revolution in agricultural economy.

The Industrial Plan envisages abolition of the "big private capitalist," state-ownership of key industries, abolition of private monopoly, control of private small-scale industries. The Workers' Charter guarantees the economic rights of the working class.

There might be those who may sneer at a "paper constitution." But today this plan for a "NEW KASHMIR" is being popularized all over the wide domain of Kashmir and peasant, in lonely mountain huts, half-starved craftsmen, tubercular coolies lugging a sahib's luggage on the slopes of Gulmarg they are all beginning to feel the stirrings of a new life. All honour to the Kashmir National Conference for putting in black and white the specific demands of the people. Freedom is no longer a politician's phrase. Now they know exactly what they are striving for. And, inspired by the vision of this new world of freedom and security they will go forward with firm hearts and determined steps, till they reach their goal.

Inspiring are the words of Sheikh Mohamed Abdullah, the acknowledged leader of the Kashmiris:—

"Throughout the lean centuries of history, the poor and exploited sons of Jammu and Kashmir have been the palanquin bearers of Hindu monarchs and Buddhist rulers and Moghul emperors. The peasant sons of the valleys and the mountains have scratched only nine inches of top soil and eked out a bare existence. Now the time has come when they must dig deep into the bowels of the earth, and yoke the technique of modern science to tasks of getting for themselves a bigger and better morsel of daily bread.

"In our New Kashmir we shall build again the men and women of our State, who have been dwarfed by centuries of servitude, and create a people worthy of our glorious motherland."

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JAWAHAR'S GRAND-SON HOISTS TRI-COLOUR

**Ceremony At Anand Bhawan:
Arrests In Sind And Lucknow**

ALLAHABAD, Jan. 27. A notable feature of the 'Independence Day' celebrations yesterday was the 'hoisting' of the National Flag by the grandson of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru at Anand Bhawan.

The ceremony was performed early in the morning in the presence of the inmates of the Anand Bhawan and a few others. The one-year-old grandson of Pandit Nehru, aided by his mother Indira, took the rope in his hand and unfurled the Tri-Colour over the roof of Anand Bhawan.

"Independence Day" functions were personally supervised by Mr. Purshottam Das Tandon, President of the Provincial Representative Assembly, and organised by Mr. Vishambhar Nath Pande, President of the Allahabad City Congress Representative Assembly.

In the morning the flag hoisting and salutation ceremony was performed at Mr. Tandon's residence and in different wards of the city, several students' hostels and private buildings. Spinning was done by a number of people in small batches at the Mohamad Ali Park in the afternoon. More than 700 persons, besides those who privately took the pledge at their homes took the pledge issued by Mr. Tandon in batches of four at the office of the City Congress Representative Assembly.

National flags and flowers were also sold.

A number of students also voluntarily absented themselves from their classes and in the evening peacefully held a meeting at the Ewing Christian College Hall.

7 ARRESTED IN LUCKNOW.

Four Congressmen and three Communist workers were arrested by the police under D.I.R. 129 in connection with the "Independence Day" celebrations in Lucknow.

3 ARRESTED IN SHIKARPUR.

The Shikarpur Sind, police effected three arrests under Section 56 of the D.O.I. Rules in connection with the "Independence Day" celebrations yesterday. The arrested persons are Mr. Khanchand Gunomal, a prominent local Congressman and two student leaders, Messrs. Kaku Asrani and Chandra Bharti.

ARRESTED AND LET OFF.

"Independence Day" was observed yesterday in various district towns in Sind. Some persons were arrested while reading the Independence Pledge but they were let off in the evening.

At Larkana the programme included 'charkha' demonstrations, national sports and feeding the poor.

At Nawabshah the police did not interfere with the peaceful demonstrations.

The five Congressmen, including two women, arrested at Karachi while reading the Independence Pledge were set free last night.

IN KARNATAK.

"Independence Day" was observed yesterday in all parts of Karnatak. Flag salutations were held and the Independence Pledge were read out in various places. The day passed peacefully.

"Independence Day" was observed in the mofussil in the following places, among others—

Godhra, Rajkot and Indore.

CONGRESSMAN SURRENDERS AFTER MEETING MAHATMA

WARDHA, Jan. 26. Mr. Rahibhau Bhoge of Amahner, for whose arrest the Government of Bombay had announced a reward of Rs. 4,000, surrendered to the police this afternoon at Sewagram, after

meeting Mahatma Gandhi. Volunteers of the "Samagra Gram Sewa Shibir" today spent three hours cleaning the Sewagram village. Members of the "Shibir" also held mass spinning.

Four Gujarat Congressmen Released

AHMEDABAD, Jan. 27. Four Congressmen, including Mr. Arjun Lal, Secretary of the City Congress Committee, who were arrested yesterday while reading publicly the Independence Pledge, were released at midnight.—A. P.

WORKERS DEMAND RELEASE OF LEADERS

Government Ban On Congress Organisation Strongly Condemned

The Independence Day was celebrated in an atmosphere of great enthusiasm at a mammoth meeting of workers and other citizens under the joint auspices of the Bombay Committee of the Communist Party of India and the Bombay Gini Kamgar Union (Red Flag) on the 26th January, at the Kamgar Maidan, Parel. A grand stage was erected bearing on its top the streamer 'Release the National Leaders.' On either side of the stage were hung huge portraits of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

Com. P. C. Joshi, the General Secretary of the Communist Party was in the chair and Com. B. T. Ranadive, a member of the Political Bureau of the Party was the main speaker. In addition the meeting was addressed by Coms. K. M. Ashraf, S. S. Mirajkar, S. G. Patkar, Vimal Ranadive and Y. M. Rao. Speeches were delivered in Marathi, Hindustani and Telugu.

The meeting passed the following resolution unanimously.

"This meeting of the workers and other citizens of Bombay held under the joint auspices of the Bombay Committee of the Communist Party of India and the Bombay Gini Kamgar Union (Red Flag) in celebration of the Independence Day, demands the immediate and unconditional release of the Congress President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and other members of the Congress Working Committee.

"This meeting strongly condemns the Government ban on the Congress organisations and demands that this ban be lifted immediately.

"This meeting pledges itself to work ceaselessly to rouse the entire people of our country to secure the lifting of the ban on the Congress and to win the immediate and unconditional release of the national leaders. It appeals to all Parties to keep aside their differences and join hands to compel the Government to concede these demands on the strength of National Unity."

Miraj Worker Lying Seriously Ill In Nasik Prison

(From Our Correspondent.)

POONA, Jan. 27. Balkrishna Vitthal Shikhar, member of the Standing Committee, All-India States People's Conference, and a prominent Deccan States worker, now a security prisoner of the Miraj Durbar is lying seriously ill in the Nasik Road Central Prison and his health is causing grave anxiety to his aged mother, relatives and friends outside. It is learnt that his relatives applied for his unconditional release on grounds of health but so far no reply has been received.

Jail Delivery Alone Will End Impasse

**CHURCHILL'S INDIA POLICY WILL LEAD
TO DISRUPTION OF EMPIRE, SAYS
RHYS DAVIES**

LONDON, Jan. 26.

An assertion that the British Empire faced disruption if Premier Churchill is allowed to pursue his present policy was made by Mr. Rhys Davies, the Labour Member, at the Indian Independence Day meeting held in London today (Friday).

"He told the House of Commons that he had not become the first Minister of the Crown in order to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire. But I am sure if we go on following Mr. Winston Churchill much longer, we shall witness the liquidation of the British Empire," Mr. Davies declared.

The British people were not interested in India, he said. "I have told my Indian friends repeatedly that they will not win freedom by anything happening in this country. They must work for it in their own country."

Referring to American interest in India, Mr. Davies said, bad effects produced by Mr. Churchill's statement that the Atlantic Charter did not apply to India could hardly be overestimated. The well-known writer on international affairs, Professor George Catlin, supported the suggestion that the All-Party Delegation from Britain should go to India to examine the possibility of a practical solution to the present deadlock. He himself believed the Indian problem could be solved on the same lines the Egyptian problem was solved twenty years ago. Negotiations should be started immediately, and to provide a suitable atmosphere, all political prisoners should be released.

Mr. William Cove, Labour Member, said the Delegation to India would only be of use if the Congress prisoners were first released. India should be free of both British and American imperialism. The Cripps Offer was a farce, as far as the reality of Indian independence was concerned.

The well-known authoress, Vera Britain, said that it was in the interests of Britain herself to grant independence to India. In a tribute to Gandhiji she declared: "When the history of these times is written, I believe the really revolutionary fact to stand out will be the philosophy of Gandhiji and the contribution it has made to the life of the world."

All the speakers demanded the release of Indian political prisoners, immediate steps towards the solution of the present deadlock and the granting of complete independence to India.—Reuter.

POVERTY "PORTRAYALS" AT LONDON MEETING

LONDON, Jan. 27.

The India League celebrated last night in the Caxton Hall, London, the "Independence Day," introducing a novel feature.

The proceedings opened with a series of sketches vividly depicting India's most urgent and universal problem—hunger—in dialogue and songs expressing the cruel agony of starving masses of India; and the scenes eloquently portrayed the poverty of the people. The sketch ended in the whole gathering pledging itself to be free. Appropriately the sketch was called, "We Will Be Free."

Mr. John Hynd, M.P. of the National Union of Railwaymen said: "We have access to Indian news and our Press is supposed to be free. Therefore, we have no excuse to say that we do not know what is happening in India. I feel everyone of us is responsible for every wrong done to the Indian people by our British administration."

"To keep Indian leaders in prison is a sure sign that India cannot expect anything from the present coalition. I am convinced that

the issue of the Indian independence depends on the issue of the next General Election."

Mr. S. A. Dange of the All-India Trade Union Congress, assured the people of Britain that "the Indian people are going to get independence whether our rulers like it or not."

Mr. Bancoly, President of the Nigerian Trade Union, a coloured leader, spoke associating his people and himself with India's independence movement. He said, "We take keenest interest in the Indian struggle for freedom. We know that India's liberation must mean the liberation of millions of suppressed and oppressed Negro people all over Africa."

It was agreed that a message on behalf of the meeting should be sent to Gandhiji and leaders in prison.—United Press.

Mrs. Pandit On Importance Of Free India

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.

Mrs. Vijay Lakshmi Pandit, speaking at the Indian Independence Day dinner given in her honour by the India League of America, declared, India's struggle is an experiment in history, for nowhere in the world have people sought to achieve freedom by non-violent means.

No other nation either, as far as I can recollect, has fitted in its own aspirations into the framework of the international picture. We have always realised that freedom is indivisible and it can have no meaning, if it is denied to one-fifth of the human race.

We have understood the urgent necessity for goodwill and co-operation between the peoples of the world as free and equal partners, so that better standards of living, economic opportunity and security shall be possible for each individual and state.

In our freedom we must have the means of contributing towards a new world structure based on peace and justice, and the abolition of the system which has made the exploitation of whole nations possible, and has created the conditions wherein war has become inevitable.

America and India have many points of similarity. You have your freedom from the British—we are striving for ours. You have established the four freedoms for your people—we work for their establishment in our own country.

You hope to reshape the post-war world in such a way as to make peace and progress possible. It is our earnest desire to help creation this new order.

Free India can be a tremendous force for good and through her freedom can be found the solution for the whole problem of Pacific and dis-contented Asia."

The American Authoress, Pearl S. Buck, one of the Honorary Presidents of the India League of America declared: "It is likely India is the country destined to see greater changes and development in the next 20 years than any other country in the world."

Out of this war, I believe, will come a new India, more than any other people today, the Indians are speaking the language of freedom and democracy. They have nothing to lose since they have nothing at all.—Reuter.

REPLY TO NICHOLS' "VERDICT"

BOMBAY, Saturday.

It is learnt that Messrs. Hind Kirtabs, Bombay, will publish next week a book entitled "Verdict on Beverly Nichols" by Gertrude Murry in which the author exposes the contradictions and distortions of facts which abound in the recent publication of Mr. Beverly Nichols, "Verdict on India."

Nasik League Working Committee Members Resign

NASIK, Jan. 27.

The members of the Working Committee of the Nasik City Muslim League have resigned 'en bloc' as a protest against the decision of the Bombay Provincial Muslim League, rejecting the appeal of the local committee against the election results of the District League, on the plea that the appeal was not filed within time. The Nasik City Muslim League Committee considered this rejection as unconstitutional and hence came to this decision.—United Press.

DAMASCUS, Jan. 27. The Chamber has approved a motion urging on the transfer of the Syrian Army to Syrian hands.



Appuni, Benoy Roy, Prem and Usha in "Spirit of India", People's Theatre ballet to be staged at Baliwala Theatre on Monday, January 29 at 9 p.m.

Practical Tip To Housewives

Grow Plants On Water!

By KAMALA TAQI

How many are the housewives in Bombay and other industrial towns who keenly regret the absence of a patch of land in which they could dig and potter about with a watercan, raise a little crop of tomatoes or green pepper or grow a bed of dahlias and sweet peas to brighten up the rooms with cut flowers. I remember myself how I longed for a bunch of sweet peas hand-picked and fresh from the vines when I lived in a little two-roomed flat in Bombay.

Science has now found a way out for these ladies by making soilless cultivation possible. You can grow flowers or vegetables as you choose in elegant glass bowls filled with water or in discarded baby tubs or wooden basins. No soil, no farmyard manure, no back-breaking spade-work for you now. With a little simple but absorbing laboratory work you can turn your balconies and window sills not to mention terraces into veritable gardens ablaze with colours and bursting with fruit.

EXPERIMENTS IN AMERICA

The new method has many names, hydroponics, aquiculture, tray-gardening, tank farming and soilless cultivation. Like everything new it has caught popular imagination in America and has become a craze.

15 years ago the "American Journal of Botany" published an article by Gerike in which he claimed successful production of crops in shallow tanks of water to which requisite chemical fertilisers had been added. Others followed his experiment with the result that in California four shallow tanks of water each providing an area of 25 sq. feet yielded 1224 pounds of ripe tomatoes. The chemicals required for this crop weighed approximately 28 pounds and cost nearly 4 shillings. Later one hundredth (1/100) of an acre of water surface was successfully cultivated to yield 25 bushels of potatoes. These were grown in the open and the chemicals required for this crop cost about six shillings. Cereals were also tried and large crops resulted but the cost of chemicals in this case was comparatively high.

Aquiculture is really a short cut to normal soil-cultivation. When plants are grown on soil they do nothing but absorb many chemical compounds naturally present in the soil. When the soil is watered the soluble food is released and carried to the

plant roots which eagerly absorb it. If the roots can be made to take their sustenance direct from the water in which it has been dissolved the soil can be easily eliminated. It is on this simple scientific fact that the new method is based.

The technique in aquiculture consists of shallow tanks of wood, concrete or iron coated with asphalt paint and of any length and width. The depth of the tanks, however, should not exceed 6 inches. A wire "mattress" of wire-mesh, 1 in. for the smaller plants and 2 in. for the larger ones again coated with asphalt is stretched 3 in. above the water, so that the air can get in. The water however needs aeration and it has been seen that a bicycle pump used twice a day will provide sufficient air for the plants. On top of the wire mesh is spread a litter of straw, of sphagnum moss or coke breeze. The thickness of the litter depends on what is going to be sown on it. If seeds are to be sown, a depth of two inches is sufficient but where seedlings, cuttings or bulbs are to be used 3 to 4 inches depth affords a proper bedding.

Plants are first set out on the seeds sown. Water should be added to the solution till it is within an inch of the bed. When the white water roots have thrust down the solution in proper strength should be kept about three inches below the bed.

CHEMISTRY OF AQUICULTURE

A great deal of controversy has raged as to the chemicals which ought to be used in aquiculture. Some experts think that in addition to the usual fertilisers trace elements such as iron, boron and manganese should be used. These they think have distinct nutritive values and should be "swallowed" by the plants in the interest of our health. For purposes of entertainment however the following would work excellently with a little care. 25 gallons of water in a basin 6 inches deep would require:

Ammonium phosphate (monobasic)	1 oz.
Potassium nitrate	2 1/2 oz.
Calcium nitrate	1 1/2 oz.
Epsom salt	1 1/2 oz.

Amateurs will soon learn that Tray gardening requires a lot of care. The solution has to be changed about once a fortnight, the acidity and the alkalinity of the water has to be checked with the help of litmus paper.



Carcass of a whale which was washed ashore at Gajna-ara in the Mahisagar river near Baroda on the 28th November 1944.

Dr. S. T. Moses, Director of Fisheries Baroda States, furnishes the following interesting particulars regarding this whale:

The specimen was 71 ft. 2 in. long and is a 'right whale' Balænid, no member of which has ever been recorded in Indian waters or for the matter of that even in intertropical seas. Her Highness the Maharani Sahib and the Yuvaraj Sahib were very much interested and went often to see the whale in spite of the inaccessibility of the place where she—the whale is a female—was stranded and the growing stench of the carcass. It was Her Highness' desire that the skeleton should be taken out and preserved in the Baroda Museum. The Fishery officers of the State, Messrs. Harshay and Pillay, attended to this and the bones have now been removed to Baroda City for a short burial in a secluded corner in the Public Gardens, which would re-

sult in a complete cleaning. Later on exhumation, the skeleton will be correctly fixed to find a permanent home in the Museum.

This is the 2nd whale to be recorded in the Mahisagar river and the 6th in Baroda waters. In 1919 a huge whale 71 ft. long, curiously enough of almost the same size as the 1944 one, was washed ashore near Tithor, 5 miles down the river from Gajna. The earliest whale ever to be recorded in Baroda waters was the one 50 ft. long that came ashore at Dwaraka opposite the Political Officer's Bungalow in 1879. In 1883 a baby whale 12 ft. long was cast up the beach near Dwaraka at Varavala. The standing of a 79 feet specimen, identified as the Great Indian Fin Whale (Balænoptera indica) near Mulvel the Headquarters of the Okhamandal Pearl fishery, in 1939 was followed by a 24 feet Killer whale (Orca) at Aramda near Okha in 1943.

Twice daily the water should be aerated by plying a bicycle pump vigorously all over it.

It must be borne in mind that the solution has to be kept at a constant level. When plants develop they must be guarded against diseases caused by humidity. Although there is no fear of the diseases borne by the soil mildew is likely to attack the plants on account of excessive moisture. To prevent this plants must frequently be dusted with sulphur.

The commercial possibilities incidental to this method were quickly seized by manufacturing firms in America and now made up "prescriptions" of the necessary salts can be had in the market.

Water culture has enormous possibilities of future development. It negatives to a great extent the suggestion entertained in certain scientific circles that food production in the world is seriously lagging behind human fecundity and that future ge-

nerations will run the risk of frequently occurring famines. For instance the vast areas of desertland may now be converted into green waterfarms. At present artificial irrigation of deserts is impossible because the water seeps in through the sand taking with it the dissolved natural salts. Tank farming can reduce this and we can harness the abundant energy of the desert sun (wasted at present) to the production of plants. Nor is this a mere dream, for the enterprising Americans have been using the aquiculture technique in Wake Island. This forlorn island lies 2,000 miles from Hawaii on the air route to China. Tank farms were developed here by the Pan-American Air Line as a possible means of sustenance for the air line outposts.

Experts think that civilisations have died in the past not through decadence but through soil exhaustion. Who knows that ours might be saved by Water culture.

Women's All-Out Effort Against Fascism

100 Per Cent Participation In All Fields

Women of the United Nations have entered so fully into the Allied war effort that their participation in all fields is now practically 100 per cent, says the "United Nations News Bulletin."

For years they have been making headline news: "Women engineers' output equals men's", "Women to work on gun sites", "Women tank drivers and fighter pilots—in Russia" and "Women heroines of European resistance movements". To-day it is no longer news.

Equal Footing With Men

Nowadays when reports made out the description of a "captain" or an "engineer", in many of the Allied countries it is as likely to refer to a woman as to a man. Although in Britain Service ranks are separately designated, we are familiar with the use of the title "Doctor" or "M.P." for men and women alike.

This development has, however, not been uniformly maintained in all countries and what is still a cause for wonder in some parts of the world is commonplace in others. Those who seek foot rules for measuring the extent of the "all-out" effort against Fascism in one country as opposed to another could do worse than choose "women in war" for their criterion. But in this, as in every other such search, they would be faced with a bewildering mass of facts.

War-Workers In South Africa

South African women, both English and Afrikaans-speaking, are for example doing practically every war-time service. With the total European population just over 2,000,000, South Africa has a Women's Auxiliary Air Force and a Women's Auxiliary Army Service each with some 5,000 members which draw their recruits mainly from a Union-wide semi-official orga-

nisation—the South African Women's Auxiliary Service with approximately 60,000 enrolments. There is a Women's Volunteer Air Force, and contingents of women form part of South Africa's coastal defence services. Thousands are now engaged in munitions work and many of the country's new industries are largely staffed by women as never before in industry. The same story can be told of most other United Nations.

Medical Women In Australia

One Australian women's unit recently in the news was the Army Medical Women's Service. Seven drafts of Australian Service women have already served overseas—three in the Middle East and four in New Guinea. Members of the medical unit after only a few weeks' leave in Australia volunteered to return to the Pacific theatre for a second spell of duty, some of them sacrificing their rank to be allowed to do so.

Women who stayed at home, because their circumstances or age prevented their joining the service force or working in factories, have done magnificent work in organising campaigns for troops comforts funds. Nor has the access of women to work normally associated with men, interfered in the quality or quantity of recruits to those professions such as nursing with which women are traditionally associated.

A Heroic Daughter Of Norway

Recently made known is the story of heroism of a Norwegian nurse who saved her hospital from destruction when the Germans were withdrawing from the Arctic Norway. She was in charge of a hospital at Nyborz, a small town at the foot of Varanger fjord, when German rearguards entered the town with the object of destroying it and driving the population south, as they have done in

nearly every inhabited locality in North Norway. Regardless of her own safety she defied the Germans to touch the hospital saying they would have to shoot her first.

There have been many recorded instances where the Nazi officer in charge did just that without any argument; but in this case, he apparently thought better of it and her bravery saved the hospital. When food ran out she picked her way across a German minefield and brought back two sacks of flour which the looters had overlooked.

Homes As First-aid Stations

In France during the occupation, many women were prepared to turn

their homes into first aid stations at a moment's notice, and if an Allied airman was shot down in their vicinity many of them did in fact perform this dangerous humanitarian work. Hundreds of fliers were nursed back to health and then helped to escape back to safety. Women are also taking active part in the reconstruction of France. Eleven women delegates sit in the Consultative Assembly. In Belgium, where at present women may vote only in the equivalent of British municipal elections, they are campaigning for national franchise which has now been unchallengeably earned by the women of France.

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TWO PLAYS

THE REBEL, THE IMPERIALIST, by Abdul Ali, printed in Madras and published by the author.

Readers may remember the two plays Mr. Abdul Ali wrote last year, called the Revolutionist and the Atheist. This year he has produced two more of the same pattern and printed in the same pamphlet form. Again the work is dramatic only in name.

The first called the Rebel is in actual fact made up of long dialogues about "World Forces" carried on in Heaven by people who were eminent when they were on earth. It has for its central figure the Mahatma, who for convenience is assumed to have departed this earth and entered the abode of the blessed. There he meets Lawrence of Arabia with whom after an exchange of not-very-sweet nothings he settles down to a long argument about England in India. Neither side speaks very convincingly, let alone brilliantly. After a few pages Gandhiji moves on and meets Trotsky and Mustafa Kamal, with each of whom he has rather tame discussions about what the author calls "World Events" and "World Forces". Lastly he meets all in a bunch, Dr. Sun Yat Sen (whom by the way, the author insists on calling Sen-Yat-Sen) Lincoln and Lenin. However, he has no time for even a pointless little talk with any of these, for the Prophet Mohammad puts an end to the play by appearing and bestowing a vigorous blessing on the Rebel Gandhiji.

The characters in the second play, The Imperialist are all quite flesh and blood people very much of this earth. The hero is a father Antony who lives in a hut on a mountain and is at peace with his own soul. The play deals with the age-old question—Is asceticism carried to such lengths, a proof of moral courage or of cowardice. Towards the end of the piece Mr. Abdul Ali raises it, too, to a "spiritual" level by introducing therein devils. These challenge the ineffectual saintliness of father Antony to such good effect as leaves the reader in complete sympathy with their kind.

The great weakness in both plays is in the endings. They are abrupt and disappointing and leave one with the feeling that all the talk and discussions in the play have led to no satisfying conclusion.

Mr. Abdul Ali writes good, forceful English. He seems able to express himself lucidly and with brevity—

My Dear Sisters And Brothers

"Nation with nation, land with land,
Unarmed shall live as comrades free.

In every heart and brain shall throb,
The pulse of one fraternity."

What a dream has the Poet entwined in the above verse, writes Diwan Lillaram Premchand of Karachi in a personal letter to Dada, blessing the Balkan-Ji-Bari. May the children's activities progress well, he says—for have not the elders really failed, and have they not created a chaos in the world? Our hopes are now in the boys and girls of the Balkan-Ji-Bari. When they grow up they are sure to spread the message of Love and thus drive away the difficulties of the tired nations!

How did you celebrate the Independence Day on 26th January? Certainly you did take the pledge to do as much as you can for the attainment of the freedom of our Motherland—So you have to keep up to it, and continue on doing your bit best till the goal is achieved.

Here is a poem on "Four Freedoms", sent by "Kandu," which I believe will interest you on this occasion:—

May Freedom ring in every heart
To make our country free,
That she may live and free us all
From foreign tyranny.

And may we always speak what's just

To help each others woes
And may each pray to God or gods
That one just loves or knows.

And may God help us to enjoy
The fruits upon our soil,
And may we have our daily Wants
And may we always Toil.

"Without going into the usual and formal your 'Congratulations' and my 'Thank You', I humbly wish to re-

ARMY & GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN

THE SOUTHERN ARMY FARMER—September 1944, No. 1, pp. 32. The object of the pamphlet (which is profusely illustrated) is to stimulate interest among Southern Army units in the "Grow More Food" campaign. The pamphlet shows incidentally how the process of growing vegetables or breeding livestock can be conducted easily, simply and profitably, with the assistance of waste land, waste water, waste refuse and spare labour. The current number includes an article by the Director of Agriculture, Madras, on "What to Grow and where to Grow it?" an article entitled "Make your Farm from Salvage" and a note on how to deal with water shortage. It is hoped to publish in the journal articles written by experts on vegetable growing, poultry, rabbit and pigbreeding and other subjects. The book has a pleasant earthy flavour and may very usefully be studied by those who having an acre of land in the country, nevertheless flock to town, hoping for "something to turn up."

N. H. P.

Reply To Nichols

Messrs. Hind Kitabs, Bombay will publish next week Verdict on Beverly Nichols, by Gertrude Murray, in which the Author effectively exposes the contradictions and distortions of facts which abound in the Verdict on India.

which is more than many of our younger writers are capable of doing. On the other hand he is no meticulous master of the language. He does not belong to that fastidious tribe of writers who object, on aesthetic grounds, to hackneyed phrases and once-new expressions. His idioms and colloquialism are often slightly wrong and his sentences are put together carelessly. There are several such mistakes in nearly every page. Perhaps these mistakes appear more glaring than they need have done because the author has made difficult task of writing a play more difficult still by attempting a sort of Platonic dialogue. If such a dialogue is to hold our interest it must either be brilliantly witty or it must be written in an easy and faultlessly beautiful English. Mr. Abdul Ali has succeeded in neither.

"LAEEQ"

INCREASED FOOD SUPPLY THROUGH IRRIGATION

"PLANNING FOR PLENTY"—An address by F. Lt. Sir William Stampe, Irrigation Adviser to the Government of India.

How the food supply in India can be increased so that it can feed the growing population of the country adequately by means of the expansion of irrigational facilities, has been discussed in this address delivered by Sir William Stampe to the Institute of Engineers (India). Combining enthusiasm with long practical experience, Sir William speaks hopefully of the possibilities of the expansion of irrigation and examines different schemes in that behalf as also hydro-electric projects associated with them. He like wise examines the financial aspect of the schemes and suggests methods by which water can be supplied for the purpose of increasing the food supply of the country. He puts in a strong plea in favour of prompt action and deprecates interminable debates and delays inseparable from secretariat red tape and indecision.

V. G. K.

"Urdu"

The latest issue of "Urdu" which is published under the auspices of the Anjuman-e-Taraqqi-e-Urdu, Delhi, opens with a well-written article by Maulavi Abdul Haq on the urgency of establishing an Urdu University in some central place in British India. The Maulavi has presented his case in a manner which cannot be refuted and it is hoped that the idea will, before long, assume a concrete shape. "Aghaz-e-Muhim" is the title of a short inspiring poem by Saïyed Hashmi Faridabadi written after the style of Ghalib and Iqbal. Mr. Ghulam Yazdani gives, in a lengthy article, a bird's eye-view of the Urdu literature since 1874—which is as interesting as it is scholarly. It contains several constructive suggestions as well for Urdu poets and prose-writers which they would do well to follow. The second and the last instalment of the series headed "Taraqqi-pasand Adab" by Prof. Aziz Ahmad constitutes a very learned and impartial review of the prose and poetical works of the progressive writers of the Urdu language. The lengthy dissertation is well-balanced and does full justice to the authors whose works have been discussed in it. Khwaja Ahmad Faruqi's article "Sir

BOOKS

AND THEIR

AUTHORS

SHORT NOTICES

The Position of Women, by Lakshmi N. Menon, Oxford Pamphlets on Affairs, Price As. 6.

Miss Menon, within the limited scope of thirty-two pages, has touched almost on all points concerning Indian women. The pamphlet is very informative and worth a careful perusal.

The Grand Inquisitor, by F. Dostoevsky, International Book House, Bombay, Price Rs. 1/4/0.

This is an extract from Dostoevsky's Brothers Karamazov, rendered into English by H. P. Blavatsky. It is a satire on modern theology and the Roman Catholic religion in particular. The translation is forceful.

Supper-time Tales, by A. T. Mackay, Thacker and Co. Bombay, Price Rs. 3.

Delightful tales for little children. The descriptions of Jams, and hot toast and savoury pies are really appetizing and will prevent many a toddler from dropping off to sleep before supper is over.

My Beloved—Romance in Letters, by John Joachim Carlsson, Kitabistan, Allahabad, Price Rs. 2.

The book purports to give suggestions to lovers for writing sensible love-letters. There are also three love stories, written entirely in letter form. Love-lorn maids and youths, especially those who want to follow some well-established formula for courting and wooing, might find the contents interesting. It is however, difficult to understand why in these days of paper shortage books of this type should be published.

Saïyed as seen in his letters"—is very interesting. Several pages are devoted to the reviews of Urdu books. With this issue the magazine completes the 24th year of its useful career.



Bombay and Suburban Balkan-Ji-Bari Boys and Girls at the General Rally (left) and after that (right) taking light refreshments at Khar.



mind my colleagues that the Balkan-Ji-Bari organisation, although at present appears to be small, has, if we so cherish, wish and work, very great potentialities. Let all of us take up this work for and among children, so far neglected by parents and Government owing to reasons of their

vision, tolerance and capacity so badly needed," writes Shri Ramnik V. Shah, the new General Secretary of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-Ji-Bari.

We are sorry to record that Mr. Abid Ali Jaferbhai and Shri J. K. Munshi tendered their resignations of the Vice-President and General

charge of "Pen-Friendship Section."

Another Member who tendered resignation was Miss Hiraben Bhatwadekar on account of her leaving Bombay for a long period, and in passing a vote of thanks for all the three abovementioned persons for their services in the various posts which they held. Miss Kumudben A. Sheth was elected a Member in her place, to be in charge of Literature. Shri Ramnik V. Shah's work of "Local Branches," on account of his being elected the General Secretary, has been transferred to Shri Ramesh C. Sheth, whose work of "Information Bureau" has in turn been transferred to Mrs. Indira Renu in addition to the other branches of work which she is already attending to.

It has been decided that the foremost aims of the Balkan-Ji-Bari children during the year 1945 will be to learn to keep silent when silence is necessary at their important classes-meetings and gatherings. At the time of receiving their certificates it will be expected that the boys and girls of the Balkan-Ji-Bari know (1) the name of the organisation and its meaning as well as its fundamental aims and objects in general; (2) names of the local Workers and the Organiser; (3) meeting place and the days and times of the meetings; (4) important activities of the Local Branch; (5) neighbouring Branches; and (6) address of the General Secretary of their Local Branch.

In this great Brotherhood of Balkan-Ji-Bari—The All-India Children's Association, all boys and girls can join. Please send for the full particulars and enrolment form to-day, mentioning your full name and address and age, and enclosing nine ples stamps for the postage.

All Good Wishes from
Your Loving Dada
"GULISTAN", KHAR—BOMBAY 21



own, very seriously and sincerely, and we shall make it a huge Children's Movement. Their voice every one shall have to hear, their interest nobody shall dare neglect, and their strength, when they grow up and become adults like us, none in power or otherwise can defy. May God give us all that energy, and me as General Secretary of the organisation that

Secretary respectively, for personal reasons, and they were regretfully accepted by the Executive Committee at their last meeting, in anticipation of the permission of the next Joint General Meeting. They will, however, continue to remain Members of the Executive Committee—Mr. Abid Ali Jaferbhai in charge of "Hindustani" and Shri J. K. Munshi in



Mr. B. G. Kher at the National Flag Hoisting Ceremony (left) and presiding (right) at the Balkan-Ji-Bari Workers' Conference at Borivli.



Amid the noisy cacophony of sermons on the post-war industrialisation a pleasing note on art-in-industry from the official lips was heard for the first time in the address delivered by Sir John Colville, Governor of Bombay, while recently inaugurating the Fifth Art-in-Industry exhibition at the Sir J. J. School of Art. Having worked as the Secretary of the Department of the Overseas Trade of the British Government Sir John is fully conversant with the role which art is capable of playing in the expansion of trade and commerce. His address clearly indicated the facets of industry on which art impinges.

Three Essentials

Design, presentation and advertisement of high standards are the three essentials of the marketability of goods. Art approaches industry through its two specialised branches—industrial designing and commercial art. Design is a vital aspect of industry. It aims at imparting attractive appearance to—at implanting beauty in—the objects intended for practical use. One of the governing principles of industry is that a finished product should present a synthesis of beauty and utility.

It is absurd economics to eliminate the element of beauty from industry. Haphazard or spurious designs never ensure prosperity of trade and commerce. The products, which are not distinctive and original in designs, fail to capture even the home market; and if they are dumped in foreign countries, they are beaten readily in competition with those of outstanding workmanship. Design is the first essential of industrial progress and as such it demands thorough organisation.

Presentation and advertisement are the functions of commercial art. They enter upon industry at a point where design ends, but they do not go deeper than its surface. The poverty or neglect of designing can never be compensated for by commercial art. On the contrary alluring advertisements and attractive presentation amount to a fraud on the consumers if the products covered by them are ugly or spurious in designs. There is also the other side of the picture. The products, which are beautiful in appearance, will not readily find market if they are not effectively advertised and efficiently presented.

Official Apathy

A conspicuous lacuna in the industrial movement is "art-in-industry" and no official endeavour is made to fill it. Science has received the maximum attention of the Government. Art has not yet appeared as an industrial interest on the horizon of the post-war planning front at New Delhi. The Indian Institute of Art-in-Industry, which is in the making and which will mark the second stage of the movement is a popular effort to align art with industry and thereby to correct the error of omission committed by the infallible officialdom.

The Institute which will be founded with the main object of developing the neglected artistic aspect of industry, has a highly ambitious programme of educational and technical work. Its precursor—the Art-in-Industry exhibition—confined its scope to the various methods of pictorial publicity—the functions of commercial art. Design which is the deeper and more important interest of industry is, so far, superficially touched by the exhibition, but it is now promised a prominent place in the programme of the Institute.

Makers Of India

But one has to wait and watch how effectively will the new institution be able to solve India's peculiar problems of art-in-industry. The exhibition has, from its beginning, been offering encouragement to the class of artists and designers who are trained on modern lines and are able to understand the conditions for entries specified in the prospectus. Its organisers have not realised the urgency of approaching the vast bulk of craftsmen who have, through ages, been the custodians of India's distinctive designs. The Government and the industrial movement have worked out no plan to absorb the unhappy and uncared for survivors of ancient India in their grandiose schemes of industrial expansion.

And the Indian Institute of Art in Industry will probably follow in the track of the exhibition and will steer clear of those who are entitled to a prominent place in any scheme of planned industrialisation of the country. The exhibition has formulated high standards and the Institute will maintain them, but the general outlook of the movement underlined by both is far from being Indian. The organisers of the Institute are working for and for the benefit of India but they appear to be the least conversant with her artistic background and requirements.

Not In Name

India is not an artistically barren country though the Governor of Bom-



ESSENTIALS OF MARKETABILITY—SYNTHESIS OF BEAUTY AND UTILITY—MAKERS OF INDIA NEGLECTED—INDIAN IN STANDARDS AND NOT TITLE—WANTED THEATRE FOR THE PEOPLE—MUSIC, A UNIFYING FORCE—A PANEL FOR FILM INDUSTRY.

bay did not have a word to say about her art-traditions. Mr. L. S. Amery, the Secretary of State, speaking in London four days later on a similar occasion acknowledged that the country has a great artistic background and a tradition in crafts which is second to none. Mr. Amery's statement however was merely a compliment and not an indication of the inordinately delayed move by the Government to harness the basic fund of the indigenous art and crafts traditions to the purposes of organising the artistic aspect of industry.

The designs of Indian products must be original and distinctive—an objective which demands, for its achievement, exploration and development of the resources of traditional designs. The designs of the artistic handicrafts have retained their Indianness, but they should be stimulated to resume their progress. Mass-production is not a valid argument in favour of shoddy or spurious designs. The Indian industrial products—whether hand-made or machine-made—ought to be beautiful to look at and unlike those with which they have to stand in competition.

Presentation, advertisement and other forms of pictorial publicity rank next in importance to design and should be governed by definite standards. If exploited by experts Indian art will not fail to meet the demands of commercial designing. Random insertion of the eyes or hands of the Ajanta-frescoes in posters and packages is no Indianisation of commercial art. The Institute will be benefited by the experience of the artists imported from or trained in the west, but it should not overlook the fact that the co-operation of a few accredited exponents of Indian art and encouragement to the craftsmen are indispensable to the solution of the country's crucial problem of commercial and industrial designing. The Institute should be "Indian" in its standard of art and not merely in its title or membership.

Theatre For People

The Bombay People's Theatre Conference which was held at the Cowasji Jehangir Hall early this month, rendered a creditable account of the progress made by the new movement. Song, dances, ballets and dramas which were presented during the four-day session had freedom and patriotism as their left motif. The outstanding amongst them was the "Spirit of India." Since the artistes themselves happened to be people of deep conviction and definite ideas, whatever was presented by them was direct and strong in appeal.

The fact that People's Theatre, despite its motto "art with the times" does not condemn classical art forms as old or out of date is confirmed by the inclusion of Shudrak's "Mrichchhakatika" in Gujarati in the programme of the conference. The People's Theatre, it is hoped, will build up its structure on the basic fund of the classics and will bring the latter within reach of the people. The liberty to select any theme or to strike out its own line of approach to the masses cannot be denied to the People's Theatre; but the latter should, when it has declared its aim to convey art to the fields and factories, not reject the classical techniques of music and dance. Art should be Indian thematically as well as technically.

The demand for a Municipal Theatre was the dominant and also delightful note of the speeches. It was finally made in the shape of a resolution. Mr. S. A. Brelvi observed that a city like Bombay should have not only one but a dozen of municipal theatres and then remarked that the absence of even one such theatre is the measure of the contribution which the Municipal Corporation has made towards promotion of culture. The People's Theatre should not rest satisfied merely with the resolution; it should carry on agitation and force the hands of the Corporation to provide for the people at least one theatre to begin with. Sufficient money is available for underground places of convenience some of which should be diverted to the construction of a theatre.

Politics vs. Music

In his presidential address at the second session of the All-India Music Congress which met recently at Calcutta, Sir S. Radhakrishna appealed to the musicians, both Hindus and Muslims to produce that psychological make-up which should take shape in political expression. Music has already achieved cultural as well as

communal unity and has held India undivided, but politics being the strongest influence to-day the art like music is allowed no opportunity to reassert itself as a unifying force.

Sir Sarvapalli rightly appealed to the musicians to mould the taste of the public instead of being moulded by them. If the musicians comes down from his high pedestal he will do disservice to music as well as to the people because he will then not be able to discard the much-wanted light varieties and to raise the taste of his clients. The Congress has passed a resolution requesting the Universities to introduce classical music in their curriculum. Every University must have a school of Indian music as a special department in which classical music in all its styles and aspects is taught by experts.

Panel For The Film

In the course of his speech at the annual general meeting of the Motion Picture Society of India, Sir Rahimulla Chinnoy, President of the Society announced that a panel will be shortly appointed by the Government to investigate ways and means of developing the film industry. Here comes the news towards which the people—the patrons of the film should

not be apathetic and allow the producers to reap the maximum advantage of the reported move of the Government.

The producers are very likely to be concerned with better prospects of their trade—with securing safeguards and concessions for their vested interests. But the Government should, while selecting the personnel and defining the scope of enquiry, not lose sight of the vital interests of the people for whom the film is intended. The panel should be representative of art, music and literature and should explore the avenues for the development of the film as a means of entertainment of a higher order and as a medium of education, art and culture. The film should develop into a national institution and not remain as merely a capitalistic concern.

NEWSPAPERS OR VIEWS-PAPERS?

(Continued From Page 4)

equal, may be greater, force, these remarks apply, to our newspapers. The newspapers of a subject people cannot but be politically sensitive. They have to persuade, they have to encourage, they have to guide, they have to lead and they have even to incite their reader to a particular mode of thinking. It is their function. It is their duty. It is not the case of excluding political fervour or carrying on too much political propaganda but that of planning one's functions according to the need of people, hour and the country.

Napoleon once complained that three hostile newspapers were more to be feared than a thousand bayonets. India does not need armament, still less bayonets. Let her have the effective weapon of hostile press constructively hostile of course—and use it in the fight for freedom, no matter if in so doing it loses a bit of its news-value, for a newspaper is for us, as it ought to be, much more than a mere harbingers of news, good or bad—a creator of news as well.

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA'S

MESSAGE TO INDIANS

A hundred thousand men and women, fired with the zeal of holiness, fortified with eternal faith in the Lord, and nerved to lion's courage by their sympathy for the poor and the fallen and the down-trodden, will go over the length and breadth of the land, preaching the gospel of salvation, the gospel of help, the gospel of social raising-up the gospel of Equality.

No religion on earth preaches the dignity of humanity in such a lofty strain as Hinduism, and no religion on earth reads upon the necks of the poor and the low in such a fashion as Hinduism. The Lord has shown me that religion is not at fault, but it is the Pharisees and sadduces in Hinduism, hypocrites, who invent all sorts of engines of tyranny in the shapes of doctrines of Paramartha and Vyavaharic.

Despair not, remember, the Lord says in the Gita: "To work you have the right, but not to the result." Gird up your loins, my boy, I am called by the Lord for this. I have been dragged through a whole life full of crosses and tortures. I have seen the nearest and dearest die, almost of starvation—I have been ridiculed, distrusted and have suffered for my sympathy for the very men who scoff and scorn. Well, my boy, this is the school of misery, which is also the school for great souls and prophets for the cultivation of sympathy of patience, and above all, of an indomitable iron will which quakes not even if the universe be pulverised at our feet. I pity them. It is not their fault. They are children, yea, veritable children, though they be great and high in society. Their eyes see nothing beyond their little horizon of a few yards—the routine work, eating, drinking, earning and begetting, following each other in mathematical precision. They know nothing beyond, happy little souls! Their sleep is never disturbed. Their nice little brown studies of lives never rudely shocked by the wall of woe, of misery, of degradation and poverty, that has filled the Indian atmosphere—the result of centuries of oppression. They little dream of the ages of tyranny, mental, moral, and physical that has reduced the image of God, to a mere beast of burden; the emblem of the Divine Mother, to a slave to bear children; and life itself, a curse. But there are others who see, feel, and shed tears of blood in their hearts, who think that there is a remedy for it, and who are ready to apply this remedy at any cost, even to the giving up of life. And "Of such is the kingdom of Heaven". Is it not then natural, my friends, that they have no time to look down from their heights to the vagaries of these contemptible little insects, ready every moment to spit their little venoms?

Trust me, to the so-called rich, they are more dead than alive. The hope lies in you—the meek, the lowly,



but the faithful. Have faith in the Lord; no policy, it is nothing. Feel for the miserable and look up for help it shall come. I have travelled twelve years with this load in my heart and this idea in my head. I have gone from door to door of the so-called rich and great. With a bleeding heart I have crossed half the world to this strange land seeking for help. The Lord is great, I know. He will help me. I may perish of cold or hunger in this land, but I bequeath to you, young men, this sympathy, this struggle for the poor, the ignorant, the oppressed.

Go now this minute to the temple of Parthasarathi, and before him who was friend to the poor and lowly cowherds of Gocool, who never shrink to embrace the Pariah Gubak who accepted the invitation of a prostitute in preference to that of the nobles and saved her in his incarnation as Buddha—Yea, down on your face before him, and make a great sacrifice, the sacrifice of a whole life for them, for whom he comes from time to time, whom he loves above all, the poor, the lowly, the oppressed. Vow then to devote your whole lives to the cause of the redemption of these three hundred millions going down and down everyday.

The LAST PAGE

Conducted by
CHRONICLER

"These last few days I have been suffering from an 'upset tummy' which has not improved my temper when dealing with those bloody idiots in the regular army who want to indulge in abuse of the Indians. **THEY TREAT THE INDIANS IN A WAY WHICH NOT ONLY MAKES ONE TREMBLE FOR THE FUTURE BUT WHICH MAKES ONE ASHAMED OF BEING ONE OF THEM**"

This is the opinion of a British soldier, Clive Branson, whose letters to his wife have been collected together in a book, "BRITISH SOLDIER IN INDIA", and published in England after his death on the Arakan Front last year.

The book has not yet come to India for sale. And I wonder if it will be allowed to be circulated here at all. Anyway I have seen a copy and I think that here from an Englishman himself is the reply to Beverley Nichols' "VERDICT ON INDIA."

Not that Branson's book is hundred per cent. gospel truth. It is apparent that his lack of first-hand knowledge of Indian political conditions led him into a few regrettable misconceptions about the role of the nationalist movement in India. Also, being a Communist and a bitter anti-fascist, he was easily led into distrusting the character of the "Quit India" campaign. And yet fundamentally he reveals himself to be a sincere anti-imperialist who had the courage to admit the injustice and cruelty of British rule over India, and who had the good sense and artistic integrity to appreciate what he found pleasant and beautiful in India. Here at last is one Englishman who is prepared to tell the truth about India at the expense of injuring the British imperial interests.

Branson And Beverley

Before I give some extracts from "BRITISH SOLDIER IN INDIA", let me give a brief description of the author as I have been able to glean from Harry Pollitt's introduction and from the letters themselves. Inevitably the contrast between Branson and Beverley Nichols strikes one.

The son of an English Army Officer, Clive Branson was born in India in 1907 at—of all places—Ahmednagar. Educated in England he showed talent for painting and took it as his career. In 1932 he joined the Communist Party, fought in the Spanish War and was imprisoned in a Franco Concentration Camp (while the elegant Mr. Nichols was writing about daffodils and dahlias). In 1941 he was called up and joined the Armoured Corps. In 1942 he was drafted to India, and in February 1944 he was killed on the Arakan Front—about the same time as Mr. Beverley Nichols was publicly tearing up his draft papers at the Taj Mahal Hotel in Bombay!

Tommy On 'Quit India' Movement

A few days after his arrival at a camp near Poona he wrote down his earliest impressions of India:

"Everyone was filled with amazement at the appalling conditions in which the people live—this has been the subject of many very lively discussions since; not always by any means with the same or correct conclusions, but without the slightest divergence of opinion on the basic fact that AFTER 175 YEARS OF IMPERIALISM IN IN-

DIA THE CONDITIONS ARE A HOWLING DISGRACE....."

The way Branson describes the brass-hats and the white-sahibs and the traditional officer-class will make many a Poona-Poonah Colonel's flesh creep. He concludes a description of a parade in honour of the Duke of Gloucester: "Sebastopol is falling and our C. O. is disappointed at the lack of polish on the topee chin-straps.....No show could have been put on better calculated to emphasise the complete lack of interest our rulers have in getting the war over."

Four months after Branson's arrival in India, the Congress leaders were arrested. His letter (dated August 12, 1942) contains the following significant remarks:

"..... these arrests do nothing to solve the basic problem (namely, the INDIANS' FIGHT FOR THEIR OWN FREEDOM)—except that it will teach the Indians to hate us all the more....."

"...it is obvious to anyone who knows anything that (1) the Communist Party was made legal as a final effort to disrupt the Congress as it is the only other party with any following among the people; (2) that as in Burma it has been made legal too late...."

"Among the fellows there is extraordinary confusion...Discussions go on night and day with views expressed ranging from two extremes: (a) 'I came to fight the Japs not the Indians', to (b) 'It would be all right to have a go at Gandhi and his Hindus; we should get some practice like the Japs got in China.' One has to keep one's head screwed on very tight, keep one's ear to the ground, and one's arguments apt."

On August 20 Branson took up the same topic again in his letter to his wife, and shows a firmer grasp of reality:—

"The whole business is TRAGIC to say the least. The Indians want independence, so as to fight for their independence against Japan. The white Sahib says, 'No—not just verbally, but in numerous practical ways—no home guard, no mass people's army, no nuclei of guerrillas, no arrests and shooting of profiteers, a heavy hand on most urgently necessary development of Indian industry and last but not the least the continued ARROGANCE, EXTRAVAGANCE AND DOMINATION OF THE WHITE RAJ...."

"I see that the (British) labour leaders have called upon the Congress leaders to call off civil disobedience—how BRILLIANT!! Doesn't the Labour Party know that the Congress leaders are in jail, and that is why rioting is going on, anarchistic because without leadership."

"Lepers"?

One of the most important passages in the book tears the veil from the Imperialist conspiracy to keep the British soldiers away from and therefore, ignorant about the Indian people.

"We are like prisoners out here; like lepers who are forbidden to enter the villages or Indian regimental quarters or in any way get to know the Indian people. Let alone the fact that we haven't ever thought of helping the villagers to organise a people's or guerilla army."

And there is bitter truth in his impassioned words in another letter:—

"At Baramatti, Poona, there was some rioting...Now it is announced that a collective fine has been imposed....This is a classic example of how the bureaucracy is CREATING HATRED AMONG THE WHOLE POPULATION...."

"And are we hated here by the people? 'Oh, no'! I say in all seriousness, God help us if the Japs come, unless the Government makes some move to repair the damage. This theme drums in my ears like a persistent warning. It is so elementary, so absolutely necessary. It is THE, and the one and only, precondition for winning the war against the Japs. You people at home MUST stir up Blighty (Britain) on this question. We English fellows came out here to fight the Japs.... But we did not come out here as a suicide squad TO BE STABBED IN THE BACK BY THE BRITISH BUREAUCRACY IN DELHI AND WHITEHALL. We did not come here to be killed by Indians provoked by the INSANE REACTIONARY POLICY OF AMERY AND CO."

"Prisoner Of Conquest!"

There is real poignance about his feelings of isolation from the people he would have liked to be friend—but the powers-that-be

would give him no chance! One night driving through a village, he saw a crowd of peasants watching a play being performed in the open air. "How I wanted to stay, to see the play through, and talk to the peasants about it! But our worlds are different, so I had to go on with the white sahibs in the lorries.....Oh, why am I here as a soldier and conqueror, and therefore the prisoner of my conquest."

During his stay in Karwar he addressed a meeting in a school on "English Education" and was asked such questions as, "Britain has ruled India for 150 years—if India conquered Britain, how long would it rule?" "The brightness and intelligence of these children is splendid", he says.

One day an officer addressed the British soldiers on "Why We Fight The Japs." Here are the answers, quoted by Branson: (1) Because we are going to prove that the old chatter about the Empire being rotten and breaking up is not true. We shall show that the Empire is still powerful. (2) We must not desert the Australians in the face of Jap threat. (3) We have to regain lost possessions. Branson is disgusted with such reasoning.

During his stay in India, Branson, in spite of handicaps of being in the Army, made many Indian friends, especially the artist Kelkar's family in Poona, he studied Indian art not only from books and talks but by observing the innate art and beauty in Indian life—in peasants' huts, among women working on constructions, children playing. His letters show not only a political understanding of and sympathy with India's freedom demand, but a very human and affectionate attachment to the common people of India.

Last Letter

To read Branson's letters is to restore one's faith in humanity. If there are a few more like him, there is some hope that one day the race-obsessed colour-conscious people of Europe will develop a new outlook, a new sense of the oneness of the brotherhood of man. In one of his last letters Branson wrote to his wife:

"Always remember that one is given by fate only one lifetime in which to work and live for humanity.... If anything should happen to either of us, never say, 'It is finished.' For we have both lived for one purpose, the emancipation of the working people.... And, above all, let us never forget that we are human beings and belong to the brotherhood of man."

His last letter closes with a beautiful sonnet composed by himself a few days before his death, and reading it, one wonders if this sensitive soul was conscious of the end being so near.

Women and children build up the only road

Where overhead the shells of death whine past

And cattle graze indifferent to the din.

I felt perhaps I'd understood at last

By close observance of all that nature showed

"Where life has gone, then where does death begin?"

Kashmir Looks Ahead!

Post-war planning is in the air. Every one has a plan or will soon

have one—for a new constitution, a new economic order, a new educational system! It is interesting therefore, to go through the pamphlet "NEW KASHMIR" described as "A Constitution and Outline Economic Plan for the State of Jammu and Kashmir, including Laddakh and the Frontier regions and the Poonch and Chinani Ilqas," issued by the All-Jammu and Kashmir National Conference.

A cursory glance at the document is sufficient to show that while the rest of India is either entangled in a vicious deadlock or still holding on to the apron-strings of the past, the people of Kashmir as represented by their national organisation, are LOOKING AHEAD. Yes, looking ahead to a new life, free from exploitation and oppression which is their lot today, and based on principles of social justice!

The opening sentence of the draft constitution, by itself, is a stirring index of the new life they are planning for themselves:—

WE, THE PEOPLE OF JAMMU, KASHMIR, LADAKH AND THE FRONTIER REGIONS, INCLUDING POONCH AND CHINANI ILAQAS—commonly known as JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE—in order to perfect our union in the fullest equality and self-determination, to raise ourselves and our children forever from the abyss of oppression and poverty, degradation and superstition, from mediaeval darkness and ignorance, into the sunlit valleys of plenty ruled by freedom, science and honest toil, in worthy participation of the historic resurgence of the peoples of the East, and the working masses of the world, and in determination to make this our country a dazzling gem upon the snowy bosom of Asia, DO PROPOSE AND PROPOUND THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUTION OF OUR STATE:

Then it goes on to lay down the first principle—"the equality of rights of all citizens, irrespective of their nationality, religion, race or birth in all spheres of national life—economic, political, cultural and social—shall be an irrevocable law." Furthermore the citizens are guaranteed not only the Freedom of speech, Freedom of the Press, Freedom of Assembly and Meetings, but also "the right of combining in public organisations trade unions, co-operative societies, women's and youth organisations sport and self-defence organisation, political parties, and cultural scientific and technical societies." The citizens are ensured the right to bear arms and expected to render compulsory military service for "the defence of the motherland."

Of even more far-reaching significance, however, is the clause guaranteeing "the right to work, that is, the right to receive guaranteed work with payment for their labour....subject to a basic minimum and maximum wage established by law." A planned national economy, industrialization, reduction in hours of work, old age pensions, free compulsory primary education, equality of rights for women etc. are some of the other provisions.

The highest legislative authority would be the National Assembly, elected on basis of adult suffrage, with the Ruler of the State acting as a "constitutional monarch" with specified rights

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KASHMIRI PEASANT GIRL. What has the New Kashmir to offer her and her people?

SAWDUST INTO SUGAR!

No More Wood Waste

By PAUL NORTON

For years the problem of what to do with saw dust and other wood waste has worried the world's great timber growing industries.

The amount of sawdust produced at great lumbering centres is tremendous. In America the huge piles of sawdust are in some places almost as familiar as slag heaps in coal and iron country. Light railways carry away the waste and bulldozers push it into the pile until perhaps twenty or thirty thousands tons of sawdust are piled up.

The yearly production of sawdust by the lumber mills of the United States is calculated at 30,000,000 tons. Until recently most of it has been wasted, burned with difficulty or just left to decay. But for the war this might have continued indefinitely. The war brought an unprecedented demand for alcohol, however, and the chemists showed how sawdust could be converted into this vital material that is needed for a hundred war products from smokeless powder to synthetic rubber. Synthetic rubber in particular calls for alcohol in huge quantities—about 325,000,000 gallons will be used for this purpose alone this year. America is also undertaking to send nearly 60,000,000 gallons overseas under Lease-Lend.

German Invention

It had long been known that wood treated with sulphuric acid in the right way can be made to yield a sugar which when fermented produces industrial alcohol. In point of fact the process had been used during the last war when again explosives called for alcohol in unprecedented quantities, and the United States built a plant in Louisiana. But the process then

used could not produce alcohol to compete in the open market and with the return of peace, industry turned again to alcohol produced from grain, potatoes and the waste of the West Indies sugar industry.

The Germans, however, with their long-term purpose of self-sufficiency continued to experiment with the conversion of sawdust and shortly before the Nazis came to power, a factory using a new and more economical method was built at Hamburg. The Nazis eventually confiscated the factory and sent the owner to a concentration camp. He escaped eventually with his life, but with no money. His entire fortune was his unique knowledge, outside Germany, of what could be done with wood waste.

Strangely enough it was not until the United States had been at war for some time and the difficulties of finding sufficient alcohol for the great synthetic rubber programme were acute that this pioneer was able to interest the authorities. At a demonstration 500 pounds of sawdust were converted in a few hours into 250 pounds of sugar and all the experts knew of course, that turning this 250 lbs of sugar into alcohol by fermentation and distillation was a straightforward matter.

Double Production

The amount of sugar produced is double that by the old methods and with further improvements in the process the chemists have been able to cut the time required to one-third that used in the original

German procedure each ton of sawdust yielding 50 gallons of alcohol. To-day there are huge plants being built near the great sawdust mountains which when they are completed and in full operation will yield 150,000,000 gallons of alcohol a year.

In the plants sawdust is carried by conveyor belts to the mouths of long containers into which diluted-sulphuric acid and steam are pumped. The acid percolates through the sawdust and the sugar syrup is drawn off from the bottom. Left behind after the conversion is complete is lignin, the brown substance which is part of all wood and which is also a by-product of the wood pulp industry.

Disposal of this lignin which will be produced in huge quantities is a problem being tackled. There are various possible uses for it in the manufacture of plastics and as a "filler" in rubber. Pressed into "nuts" it makes a fuel that burns with an intense red glow like anthracite. It has also been tried for improving the physical properties of soil.

Lignin is also produced in great quantities from the waste liquor of paper pulp mills. Ways are now being found of using the sugar in this liquor for producing alcohol and the establishment of industries able to use lignin as raw material would be of great importance in making the process economic. In point of fact the ordinary economics do not rule, for the disposal of the waste actually costs the paper mills money, since the waste cannot simply be pumped into streams which would be polluted.

Disposal of the waste at "a loss" might, therefore, be profitable.

All Out Of Wood!

The sugar produced from sawdust is very much the same as the sugar used to sweeten a cup of tea but it is not likely to be used for this purpose, since the purification of it is more difficult than of sugar from beet or cane. All the same Dr. Bergius, the German chemist, used to surprise his friends by offering them a box of chocolates 'wholly made—box, wrappings, chocolate and fillings—from wood.'

The importance of the process in the future will lie rather in the diversion of grain and potatoes from alcohol factories to the food factories. In all the great industrial countries vast quantities of grain and potatoes have been used every year for making alcohol. If sawdust can be submitted to a great extent for the grains, these will be more readily available for food. At the same time, a certain amount of sawdust may provide food not directly but through livestock fed on materials rich in sugar fermentation can be extensively used as food.

The consumption of industrial alcohol will probably fall considerably immediately it is not required in such quantities for producing smokeless powder. On the other hand, the demands of the synthetic rubber and plastic factories will continue to be great and may even expand.

Although the alcohol is produced from wood, it is not "wood alcohol," but ethyl alcohol. Alcohol for whisky and other "spirits" will, however, continue to be produced from grain, molasses and potatoes.

When A Cat Walks Across Your Path...

(Continued from Page 2)

I said stoically—'Not at all. Let me sign them all. I'll foot all the bills when I leave. Will that suit you?' 'To the ground, you bet,' he acquiesced and left followed by his three favourite kittens prancing between his legs.

"The day was a day of regular warfare between the fair feline defensor and myself. Every time she caught a glimpse of me off she went in chaste Rumanian or some such tongue, obviously upbraiding me, as the accompanying gestures were extremely warlike, one of which showed how she would like to wring my neck 'like ziss'."

"The cats had obviously been eves-dropping. They staged a similar show at dead of night. The Moon appeared a little later apparently had been having a tiff with someone, as a fraction of her face had been missing. Her honeyed smile had been replaced by a glum, ominous look that boded ill for the rest of the night. She was not the impressario to-night but a fendi-ah and abettor in feline felonies. I didn't have to wait long. The twenty-two cats of the establishment were ranged in battle array below my window. Some silent gesture from

somewhere gave them the lead. And off they went for one another though keeping at a safe distance one from another. A sort of pantomime with ample gestures, challenges, flourishes and charges with admirable restraint. It was what might be termed a war of nerves.

Then a long-drawn-out psh-sh-sh-shaw, followed by a number of similar sounds, then a repressed miaow, and then they went 'the whole hog! They howled and shrieked and psh-sh-shawed and miauled and yelled their guts out. They scampered to and fro and round and round emitting most nerve-racking war-cries to discomfit one another. The caty code of warfare obviously forbade all physical violence. They were at a hair's breadth from one another at times, but as for a real dog-fight, no, they were not going to sink so low. At least they were not going to fight like Kilkenny Cats. They made up for their suppressed sadism in howls and yells, the local jackals joining in the chorus.

"The sandy tract resounded with it making you feel that the end of the world was coming. I thought I had full control over myself that night. But alas, after the third repetition of the caty blitzkrieg da capo I had to join in myself. I flung out two chairs and a foot-stool, the towel-rack and the clothes-hanger. I threw at them whatever solid object I could lay my hand on having emptied out my own valise. My books, shaving-tackles, clothes-brush, the bottle of brilliantine, tooth-brush, spare pair of shoes etc. etc. Then in utter exasperation I pushed the table (a fairly massive piece of furniture) to the window and sent it down with a terrific crash, oblivious of the fact that the 'damaged-meter' was ticking away somewhere and figures were mounting up.

"The following day I had the whole house on me, men and cats in alliance. The manager was particularly hostile this time, as one of his favourite kittens had a nervous breakdown at the sight of the table crashing down from above. The fair inmate of the establishment hurled all her pretty dancing shoes in my direction smashing a good few pictures on the wall. As for the cats I had better leave them alone. They were playing the last act of the charade which, as you'll remember was 'a bad job'. They spoiled everything that belonged to me, strictly caty fashion. This was their secret weapon which they

Copper Robot Used To Test Flying Suits

General Electric Laboratories has a new "copper man" for testing flying suits. In the development of electrically warmed clothing for fliers and their implements, cold chamber testing is so vital that Dr. Guillemin, of the Wright Field Aero-Medical Laboratory and others thought it desirable to devise a robot. He asked General Electric engineers to make a full-size copper man. Their substitute duplicates almost exactly the human temperature system and solves the problem of testing electrically warmed flying suits, gloves, shoes and blankets at low temperatures without inflicting suffering and danger on human beings.

The copper man is five feet ten-and-a-half inches tall. He has a copper "skin" one-sixteenth of an inch thick. When "in operation" he loses his copper sheen. To increase his radiation he has a finish as black as ebony.

The temperature of different parts of the human body varies considerably. Thus the face and hands, which normally more exposed, may vary widely in temperature without harm or discomfort

had kept in reserve. There were a few more smashing incidents which brought the total of damages caused by me directly or indirectly to the establishment to the round figure of \$40, the chit being handed over to me solemnly when I retired that night.

"Standing in my cubicle, now practically denuded of all solid objects except my own self, the bed, my valise (now considerably alleviated) and my hat (my stick had gone) I somehow didn't have the courage to face another night in that Cats' Home. I couldn't make the best of a bad job when much worse was certainly in store for me. My decision was hastened by the memory of a bit of news I read years ago in a Warsaw Journal—'A drunken cat kills its master'. And for all I knew the cats looked rather tight that night. Might have been done by their defender.

"So when the whole house sank in torpor and the cats were busy preparing to give a finishing touch to the 'bad job', a shadow passed down the stairs into the night outside.

"I made my way straight in the direction of the limitless desert with renunciation in my heart and with the firm resolve to rise in the rest of my days like St. Simon Stiles on the top of a tower, impregnable to cats."

but the trunk must maintain a more uniform temperature. Hence the copper man is so wired that different parts and members of his body radiate different degrees of heat. He is divided into 15 areas. The amount of energy delivered to each can be individually controlled.

When human volunteers were tested in low-temperature chambers, observers had to face the problem presented by different reactions. If a man has just eaten a big meal or has been out late the night before, his body temperature would be too low, depending on his constitution. It is impossible to maintain standards. The copper man displays no such idiosyncrasies. His body temperature can be standardized so he is more suitable for testing than if he were alive and given to having a good time.

Recognizing the importance of developing better hand and foot protection, the aero-medical laboratory ordered for the copper man four separate hands, four separate feet and remote control equipment for these. These hands and feet are important in determining the proper design of electrically warmed clothing.

—USOWZ



"There's that blinking Sergeant over there. I felt like telling 'im off again to-day."

"Again!"
"Yus, again I felt like it yesterday."



"I wonder what they will think when they see me in this short skirt."
"That I married you for your money my dear I expect."

Seabees Go To War



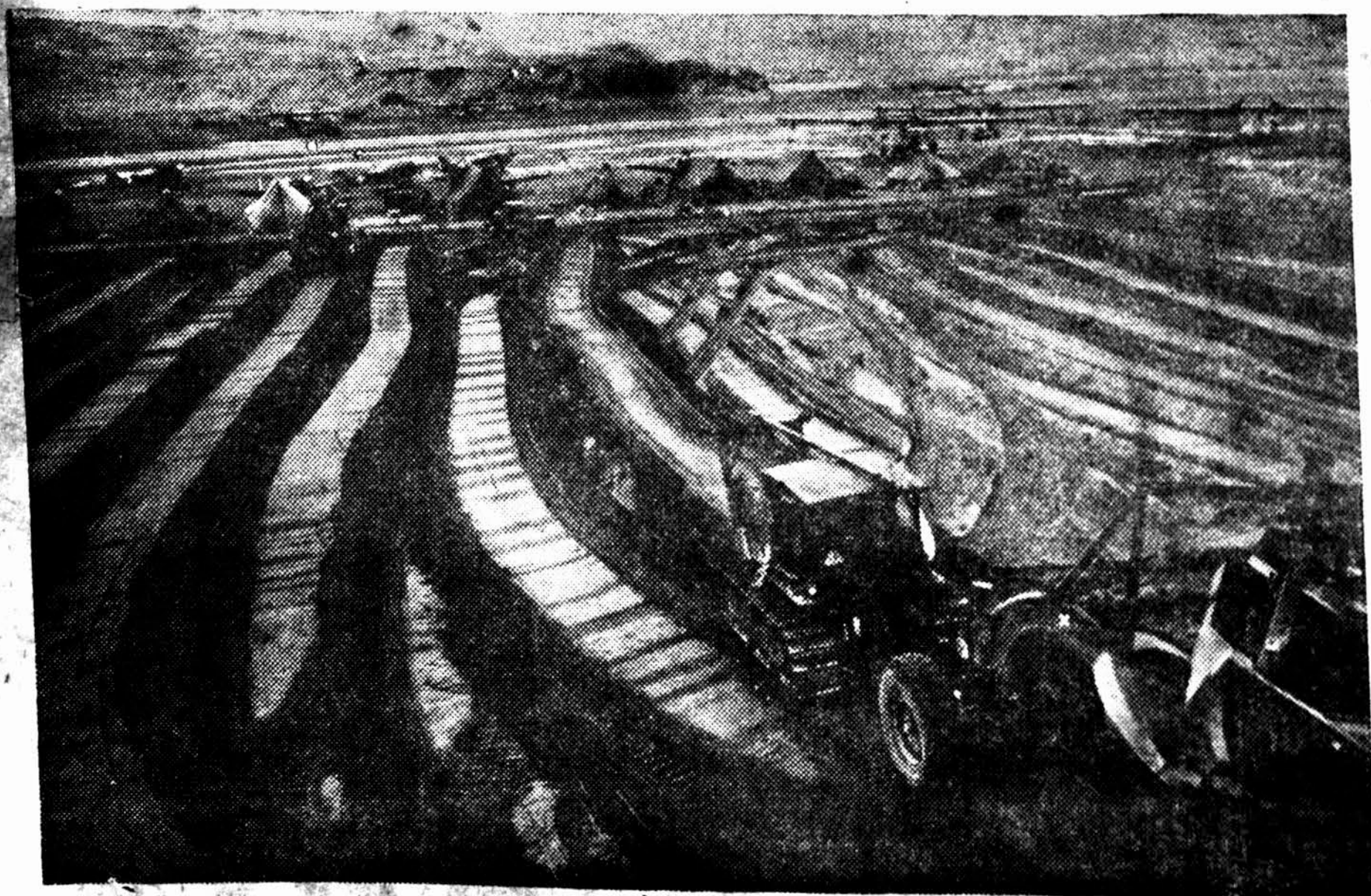
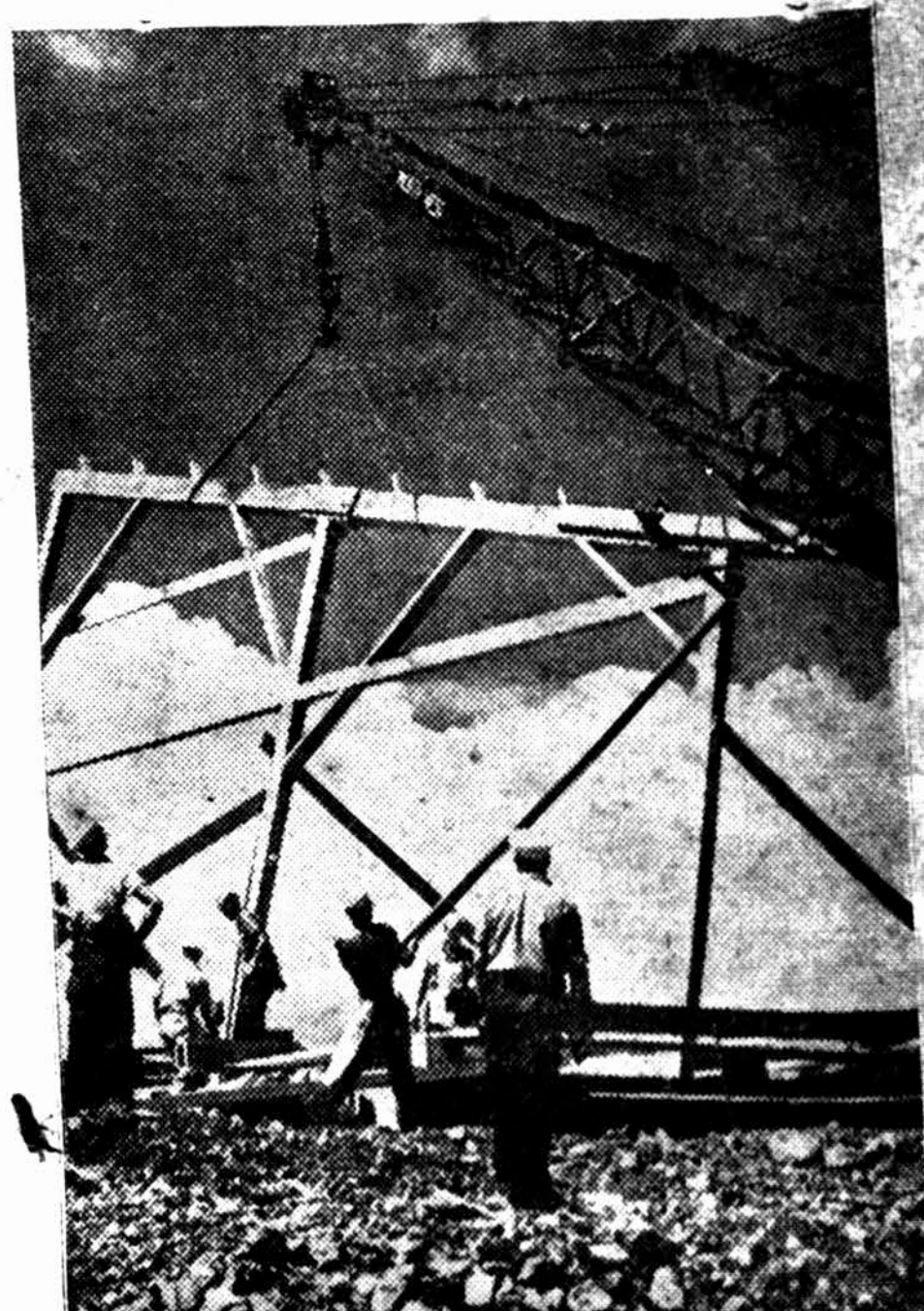
On the left is a typical Seabee—member of a construction battalion of the U. S. Navy. On the right a detachment of Seabees is seen in action with air-driven drills and dynamite charges, speeding up the building of a road on the green islands in the S. W. Pacific



The U. S. Navy's Construction Battalion, popularly known as the Seabees, have just celebrated their third birthday. Organized three years ago as a sea-going unit of combat engineers, to-day they number 8,500 officers and 234,000 men drawn from 60 different trades. Their job is to move into desolate, far-flung outposts and build bases for Allied forces, constructing barracks, airfields, docks, gun emplacements and other necessary installations. Although they represent one of the youngest branches of the U. S. naval service, the Seabees have established a tradition for doing the impossible under the most difficult conditions. Although their primary job is to build and not to fight, much of their construction work has been done under sniper fire and plane attack. And when the occasion has demanded, they have dropped their shovels and taken up rifles.

These men have participated in every major amphibious operation in the Pacific and European theatres. They have scored against the jungle

(Left) Seabees setting the framework for a hut on Guadalcanal (Right) A huge crane hoists a wooden structure as the Seabees build a warehouse on a South Pacific base.



in the southern islands of the Pacific, building roads and bridges despite mud and swamp and tropical rains. They have cut through the frozen soil of the Aleutian Islands in the North Pacific, laying pipe-lines for the transportation of fuel. They have constructed air-fields under enemy fire so that U. S. fighting planes could continue offensive action aimed as soon as ground forces had seized control. In record time they have constructed living quarters and warehouses in once uninhabitable areas. They made usable first, and then formidable to the enemy, those stepping stones over which Allied forces advanced to the Philippines. They made Saipan a jumping-off place for B-29's even before the sky was clear of ack-ack,—and most recently they have performed similar engineering feats on Leyte and Mindoro.

The Seabees have a brave motto: "Can do!" They have done everything that was asked of them, and often more. Their actions seldom make headlines; they are the unsung heroes in the war against the Axis.

In the Aleutians the Seabees tackled a huge job but only one of many just as big for them. They are building a naval base. Here, tractors and grading machines used by the Seabees, etch patterns in the stubborn soil as the construction work proceeds.